



FNB's Larry Briggs
awarded by Shawnee
Chamber

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Wadase update:
One year of freedom

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Self-Governance
Director Rhonda Butcher

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HOWNIIKAN

Zisbaktokégises (April 2014)

People of the Fire

Citizen Potawatomi Nation is the largest job creator in Shawnee, Okla.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the largest employer in Pottawatomie County with more than 2,200 employees, is also the largest creator of jobs in Shawnee, Okla.

According to the Bureau of Labor, in the period between 2003 and 2013 the net new jobs in Shawnee increased by 2,045 and during that same time period CPN created 1,422 new jobs.

In the past decade, CPN has advanced beyond operating casinos which has allowed the Tribe to create a more diverse set of jobs. Today the Tribe manages a diverse portfolio of businesses

and enterprises which have a significant economic impact in Oklahoma.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation had a \$522 million economic impact in the State of Oklahoma for 2012. This economic impact includes \$68 million in wages and benefits, directly supporting more than 2,200 jobs, and purchases contributing to a \$377 million impact on the local economy.

"There is an old adage that 'a rising tide raises all ships.' As our success grows so will the success of the communities where we do business," said John Barrett,

Chairman, Citizen Potawatomi Nation. "We are a lasting partner of the state and community."

CPN owns both the largest tribally-owned grocery store and the largest tribally-owned bank in the United States. Other tribal enterprises, including a Cultural Heritage Center, FireLake Golf Course, FireLake Ball Fields and the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort have become popular destinations for Oklahoma residents and out of state tourists.

"Our diverse portfolio of businesses allows us to provide good employment opportunities

across a broad spectrum, making Pottawatomie County a desirable place to work and live," said Barrett. "Our businesses also create a significant tourism draw for Oklahoma, making Shawnee a destination that otherwise wouldn't exist."

Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a federally-recognized government and has inherent sovereign status recognized by treaty and law. CPN owns and operates a variety of tribal enterprises including First National Bank, Grand Casino Hotel and Resort, FireLake Discount Foods and the CPN Community Development

Corporation. To learn more, please visit www.potawatomi.org.

Looking back at one year with Wadase

In June of 2012 the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary received a juvenile bald eagle originally from the Florida Audubon Society. Many people know this eagle as Wadase and have watched her progress for the past year as she began to explore Pottawatomie County.

Long before she was Wadase Zhabwe, CPN staff knew her as "Penojés". Discovered near her nest in Orange County, Fla., she arrived at the CPN Eagle Aviary when she was approximately five months old and was given the Potawatomi name, Penojés. She had suffered an injury to her left wing, including a fractured wing tip, extensive tissue damage and loss of her primary flight feathers.

The CPN Aviary staff planned to glove train the young bird and use her as an educational bird for students and Tribal members.

"When we received her we didn't believe that she would ever fly again," said Jennifer Randell, CPN Eagle Aviary manager. "At that time, we felt she would make a great educational bird. We didn't have a separate muse for her then



Aviary staff member Bree Dunham with Wadase prior to her release.

and decided to put her in the enclosure with the other eagles. During that time we noticed that she had an interest in learning to fly and that's when our plans changed."

It was not until the replacement set of flight feathers grew in that her flight could be reevaluated. By fall 2012, it was determined that Penojés had regained flight ability well enough to consider

release back to the wild.

Penojés was cared for and rehabilitated by several experts in the aviary field. During the course of several months she learned to hunt and regained her strength and conditioning for flight. In April 2013 she received a new Potawatomi name, Wadase Zhabwe, meaning brave break through. Wadase was banded and released with a tracking device so that aviary staff could monitor her progress.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Raptor View Research Institute of Missoula and Comanche Nation Sia had all joined together to rehabilitate Wadase and were prepared to release and track a juvenile bald. The CPN Aviary became the first ever Native American Aviary to release an eagle back to the wild



Perched on a half-frozen tree during the cold 2013-14 winter.

banded and fitted with a GPS telemetry back pack.

"When we set out to track her progress we had no idea what kind of data that we'd get or if the tracking device would even work," added Randell. "We knew

that her travel and hunting progress can be monitored. The transmitter allows CPN staff and the public to follow the movements of the Wadase and to make certain of her survival in the wild.

"This is the first bald eagle and first soft release we have ever been involved with," said Robert Domenech, Executive Director of the Raptor View Research Institute. "In general, I would have to say she is doing great. If you get a year of data you can't complain. Anything after that is a bonus. Wadase has proven herself to be a survivor and I am optimistic she will continue to do well, giving important glimpses into the details of her life."

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Eagle Aviary houses rescued eagles, which typically cannot be rehabilitated. The aviary was constructed by a \$200,000 Tribal Wildlife Grant awarded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and CPN matching funds. Tours of the aviary are available by appointment only. For more information and for updates on the location of Wadase Zhabwe, please visit www.potawatomi.org/eagle.



Chairman Barrett blesses the landing platform ahead of Wadase's release in 2013.

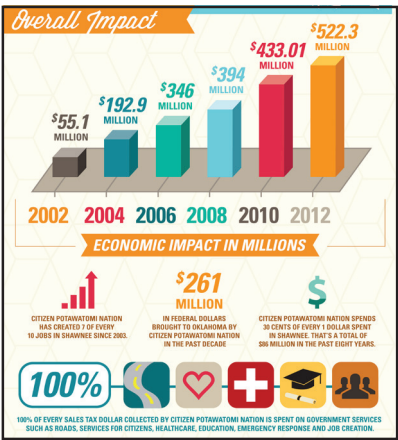


Enjoying the lawn furniture.

Positive Tribal impact extends to economic, charitable and infrastructure sectors in Pott. County

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has come a long way since 1971 when the Tribe's bank account held just \$550 and its assets included an aging mobile home used as an administration building. A combination of strong leadership and strategic planning has allowed CPN to advance beyond solely operating casinos. Today the Tribe manages a diverse portfolio of businesses and enterprises which have a significant economic impact in Oklahoma.

Current Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett took office in 1971 and by the late 1980s, CPN had begun to flourish. Foresight compelled Tribal representatives to diversify its commercial and financial resources, resulting in CPN possessing both the largest tribally-owned grocery store and the largest tribally-owned bank in the United States.



Other tribal enterprises, including a Cultural Heritage Center, FireLake Golf Course, FireLake Ball Fields and the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort have become popular destinations, for Oklahoma residents and out of state tourists. Enterprises operated by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation have made Pottawatomie County a tourism destination of choice for meetings, conventions and sporting events statewide.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has been generous with its success. With a \$522.3 million economic impact in 2012 and more than 2,200 employees, the Tribe is the economic engine in its 900-square mile jurisdiction in Pottawatomie, Oklahoma and Cleveland counties.

As a government, the Nation has worked diligently to cultivate a tax base that can support its

dollar spent in Shawnee and has brought \$261 million in Federal dollars to the State of Oklahoma.

CPN's generosity and economic impact doesn't stop there. Since 2005 CPN has contributed more than \$5.4 million to 175 different civic and charitable organizations in Shawnee. The Tribe has spent \$34.4 million on public facilities, including a golf course, parks and ball fields that draw in tourists from across the region. Many of these facilities offer reduced or no cost activities for nearly 2,000 local students each year. Additionally, 65 percent of CPN employees regularly contribute time and money to local charitable organizations.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation's goal is to make its communities the destination of choice for businesses and families doesn't end with economic impact and

charitable giving. CPN also works diligently to make sure infrastructure and public safety rise to the level of any city across the United States. The CPN Police Department employs 24 cross-deputized, CLEET-certified officers, and has contributed more than \$40 million to water, sewer, roads and emergency management projects since 2005.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a good partner to the communities in and around Pottawatomie County and to the State of Oklahoma and will continue on its path of economic development, job creation and charitable giving. Its successful partnership with its neighbors will reflect the growing sentiment of communities and towns across the United States who benefit from the municipal and business partnerships with tribal governments as they continue to prosper.

Language with Justin

By Justin Neely, Director, CPN Language Department

We have a lot of exciting opportunities for you to learn your language. For instance, we have an online dictionary with close to 5,200 words that is constantly growing. The Potawatomi Dictionary is being continually updated with audio files, example sentences and new concepts such as categories. It allows a person to look up words based on categories such as birds, mammals, household objects, types of verbs, etc. This feature, though not quite ready, will be available soon. You can find the dictionary and more resources at www.potawatomi.org/lang.

We also are continuing our onsite Monday evening beginner class at the Cultural Heritage Center from 5:00-6:00 p.m. There is no charge and you are welcome to join in at any point. For the more advanced students we have a conversational class on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00 p.m. at the Cultural Heritage Center.

The Beginner class will be Tuesday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. CST and Thursdays 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CST. To join this class, go to www.instantpresenter.com/

potawatomi4 a few minutes before the class begins.

The beginner class is just for beginners. Anyone is welcome to attend and there is no charge, but it will be very basic content. You will learn different simple statements, commands, animals, weather, etc. If you have never had any Potawatomi language training, this is definitely the place to start. The classes on Tuesday will repeat on Thursday but folks will be welcome to go to both classes to cement their understanding.

The Intermediate/Conversational class will be Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. CST and Thursday 2:00-3:00 p.m. CST.

To join this class, go to www.instantpresenter.com/potawatomi2 a few minutes before the class begins.

The intermediate/conversational class will have live audio from both students and instructors. This class will be both topic based and will cover more challenging topics such as verbs, verbal patterns, storytelling and general conversation. There will be an

element of both listening comprehension and an opportunity for students to talk back in the language. Anyone is welcome to attend and there is no charge, but this will be somewhat faster paced and hopefully we will have more conversations going on in the language.

Please forward this information to anyone who you feel would be interested. For additional questions please email me at jneely@potawatomi.org.

Migwetch.

Oklahoma banker Larry Briggs continues successful career at First National Bank and Trust Co.



Larry Briggs (left) is awarded the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce's Richards' Sr. Service Award.

In 1984, First Oklahoma Bank, N.A. of Shawnee, Okla. opened with a capital structure of \$2.5 million, a large portion of which was borrowed from a correspondent bank which failed amidst the banking crisis of the mid-1980s. For ten years, First Oklahoma Bank, N.A. lost money before a change was made that helped facilitate significant improvements that would eventually see the bank become a profitable enterprise. The man whose arrival helped kick start those changes was bank President and CEO Larry Briggs.

Briggs, originally of Cheyenne, Okla., is nearing his second decade as President and CEO of the First National Bank and Trust Co. An elder statesman of the Oklahoma banking community, Briggs' quality of leadership is reflective of in both his longevity and FNB's ongoing success.

He got his start in the banking sector at the Citizen State Bank of Morrison, Okla. with just ten hours remaining needed to complete his Bachelor's Degree at Oklahoma State University. Convinced by the bank's president Dwight Rymer to take on role as a management trainee, Briggs put off classes as he began his new role with the bank. His first task was as a check filer.

"It was the most boring job there is," recalled Briggs as he described his early days at the bank. "But if you filed checks, you got to know your customers and how you could help them. You also learned their signatures, which meant you

could make sure checks were not forged."

Briggs held almost every position at one point or another at Citizen State Bank, from teller to a lending officer. By 1971, he came to the conclusion that he'd passed by his opportunity to finish his degree. After a two year stint at Stillwater National Bank in Stillwater, Okla., Briggs received another offer from Dwight Rymer, his former boss. Rymer was in the process of purchasing a bank in the town of Holdenville, and he offered the 29-year old Briggs the opportunity to become the youngest bank president and CEO in Oklahoma.

"I told him, 'Dwight, I've been in the banking business for five years, I'm only 29, and you're going to make me the president of a bank? How smart is that?'" said Briggs.

Yet Rymer's faith paid off again.

N.A., whose major shareholder was the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

"Not being a Native American, I was a bit hesitant about running a bank for a tribe. But any reservations I had were put to bed pretty quickly, and since I've been here this long, I think that sentiment has borne out."

First Oklahoma Bank, N.A., which was located in Shawnee, Okla., is now called First National Bank and Trust Co. Its seven locations in Oklahoma operate under the same regulations, restrictions and laws as every other FDIC insured bank in the U.S. does, despite misconceptions about advantages of tribal ownership.

When he came on as president and CEO in 1994, it had \$27 million in assets. Today, it holds nearly ten times that amount. Under his watch FNB implemented a customer call program and a trust department. FNB also increased its loan volume by 250 percent while keeping a high credit quality.

Along with his work at FNB, Briggs has given back to the local community in Shawnee, the state and the nation. The former-Army National Guard artillery captain has been the President of the Oklahoma Banker's Association, Chairman and Treasurer of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the Economic Development Foundation. He was the founding director for the Oklahoma Foundation for

Excellence, and served as that organization's treasurer and executive committee member as well. At the national level he has served on numerous committees and advisory roles with the American Bankers Association.

He also sits on the advisory board of Oklahoma Baptist University, previously served on Oklahoma State University's National Alumni Association Board, and has been an instructor to students planning on entering the banking sector. These accolades, and many others, were why Briggs was recently honored by the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce's Gordon Richards' Sr. Service Award.

Looking back on his career, Briggs explained that while he was happy with his accomplishments, he wishes he'd finished those ten hours at Oklahoma State in night school. Even successful bank presidents can have regrets. Yet in an age where every college graduate seems to emerge with a diploma and several thousand dollars of student loan debt, Briggs path offers inspiration, which he credits to the faith shown to him by those along the way.

"I had people who saw that I worked hard, had common sense and that a forty hour work week wasn't in my vocabulary. If a task took longer, I stayed until the job was done."

That work ethic has not only benefited Briggs, but the bank and numerous organizations he continues to serve.

Potawatomi Leadership Program adds website and online application

The Potawatomi Leadership Program is an opportunity for young tribal members from around the country to take part in a six-week long educational program in Shawnee, Okla. The program strives to give interns an accurate perception of CPN as a whole and cultivate talent from within to ensure that younger generations are prepared for a role in the future governance of their tribe.

Starting this year, PLP applicants will be able to apply to the program at a brand new website, plp.potawatomi.org created by the IT Department of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Tesia Zientek, Grants and Contracts Coordinator for CPN, helps out with the PLP during their summer internship, and helped oversee the design and construction of the new site.

"The PLP is an incredible opportunity for young tribal members," said Zeintek. "I have known every group of students since the first group in 2003, and it's been amazing to watch the program's development and now be involved in it. Our hope is that with the new website and online application, more students will become aware of the opportunity, and applying will be easier than ever."

The user friendly website, plp.potawatomi.org, allows individuals to see previous classes, details of the program's activities and has an online application page for future PLP students. Whether a parent seeking information or tribal youth interested in attending, the website gives everyone an idea of what they need to know.

"Our internship applications have previously gone through the mail, which can be a cumbersome process," said Vice-Chairman Linda Capps. "This year, we decided to put everything online since today's students are quite technologically capable. Under Tesia's direction, our excellent website team of Phillip Mustafin and Nathan Hawkins came up with a plan, design and a functioning site in a couple weeks. We look forward to all of the applicants who will use this new



The new site can be found at plp.potawatomi.org.

tool and hope that it will help connect our members across the country."

The deadline to apply for the program this year is May 1, 2014.

The dates for participating in the program this year is from June 20

to Aug. 2.

For more information about the program and attending, refer to the PLP website plp.potawatomi.org or contact Dennette Summerlin at (800) 880-9880, ext. 1103.

Joe Garcia named new General Manager of Grand Casino Hotel and Resort

Citizen Potawatomi Nation's prosperous and diverse presence in Pottawatomie County continues to provide numerous opportunities for tribal members, current employees and Oklahoma residents. That opportunity often comes from the "promote from within" policy at CPN and has allowed many employees to make their career working for the Nation.

An example of that is Joe Garcia; a one-time lawn care specialist for FireLake Golf Course is now the General Manager for the Grand Casino. Joe Garcia, like many other CPN employees, was just looking for a summer job. Little did he know, with 22 years in the making, Garcia would find himself in a very integral position to help the tribe grow.

Garcia, a native of Brownfield, Texas, was on a baseball scholarship at New Mexico Junior College when he got a phone call from the head coach at Oklahoma Baptist University. That coach offered Garcia the opportunity to transfer and play ball at OBU. Garcia moved to Shawnee, Okla. the following year in pursuit of his physical education degree. While at OBU playing baseball,

Garcia met Brian Capps, son of Vice-Chairman Linda Capps.

One day, Brian suggested that Joe look for a summer job at CPN.

"At the time, I was only seeking part-time work since I was attending college full time. My good friend Brian recommended that I check out the golf course for some seasonal help. I went in the next day to apply and have been with the Tribe ever since," explained Garcia. "The reason I

continued working for the tribe, even after college, is that people here believed in me and gave me opportunities that I don't think anyone else would have."

Working his way up for the tribe throughout the years prepared Garcia for his newest assignment as General Manager of one of the state's largest casino and resort destinations. He credits his father for giving him his "can do" attitude and work ethic.

In Oklahoma, the gaming community is highly a competitive enterprise with 38 federally recognized tribes in the state. So staying ahead of the game is the key to success.

"Right now, our focus is on our new restaurants, The Grand Café and Flame Brazilian Steakhouse, as well as the Grand Event Center. However there are a lot of other great things coming to the Grand. Our goal is to set the bar high, not



Joe Garcia.

VOTE DAVE CARNEY FOR DISTRICT 8

★ STEADY LEADERSHIP
– Building Community

★ SHARING CULTURE
– Outreach & Communication



Dave's ancestor, Narcisse M. Juneau.





Firekeeper Luke with Dave in Wasilla, AK.



Dave with Kelly Lynch in Seattle, WA.



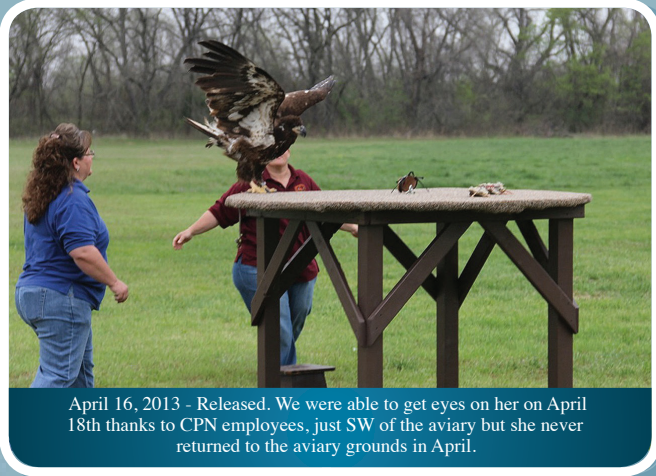
Dave with art contest winner Evonne Lowery, of Eugene, OR in the summer of 2013.

I ask for your vote to continue building our District 8 Community.

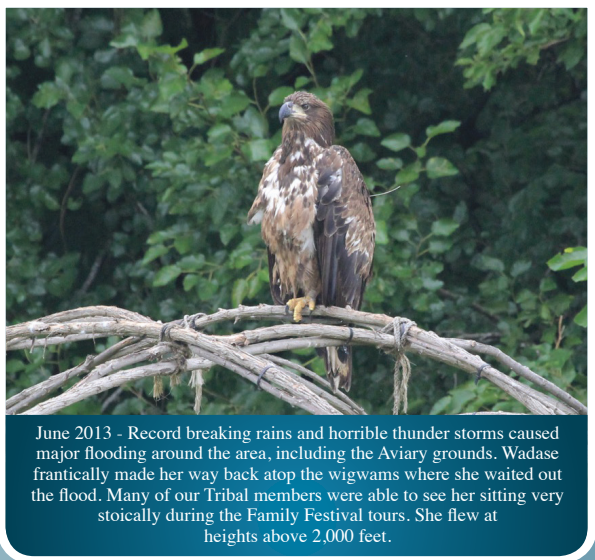
It's been my honor to serve you.

www.dave-carney.com

Wadase timeline



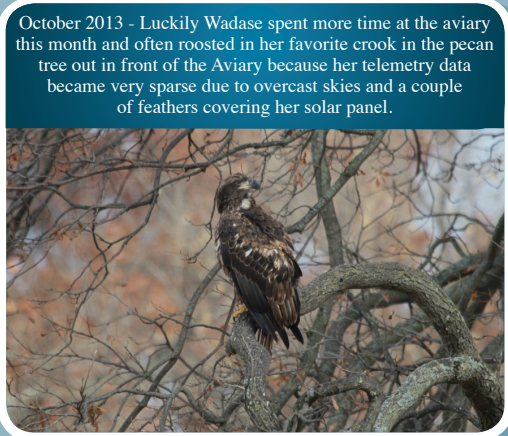
April 16, 2013 - Released. We were able to get eyes on her on April 18th thanks to CPN employees, just SW of the aviary but she never returned to the aviary grounds in April.



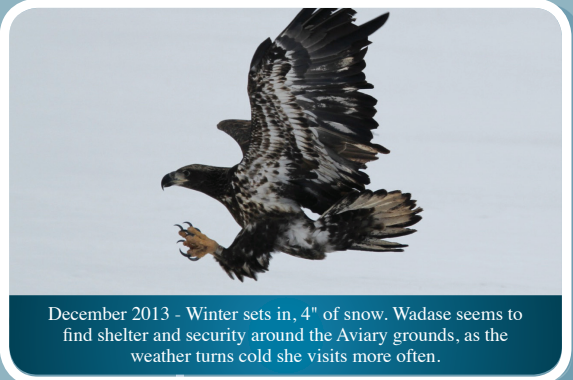
June 2013 - Record breaking rains and horrible thunder storms caused major flooding around the area, including the Aviary grounds. Wadase frantically made her way back atop the wigwams where she waited out the flood. Many of our Tribal members were able to see her sitting very stoically during the Family Festival tours. She flew at heights above 2,000 feet.



August 2013 - She saw her longest stretch away from the Aviary since her release, ten days. She was definitely honing her skills, now able to snatch food right off platform or ground in mid-flight, this let us know she was successfully catching prey in the wild.



October 2013 - Luckily Wadase spent more time at the aviary this month and often roosted in her favorite crook in the pecan tree out in front of the Aviary because her telemetry data became very sparse due to overcast skies and a couple of feathers covering her solar panel.

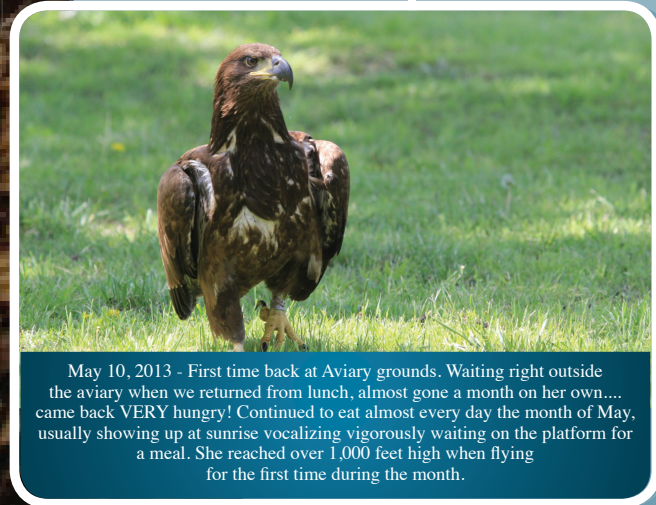


December 2013 - Winter sets in, 4" of snow. Wadase seems to find shelter and security around the Aviary grounds, as the weather turns cold she visits more often.



February 2014 - She continues to venture farther North to the Deep Fork, past Stroud about 34 miles from the aviary but still comes back to visit the Aviary a couple days a week usually.

2013



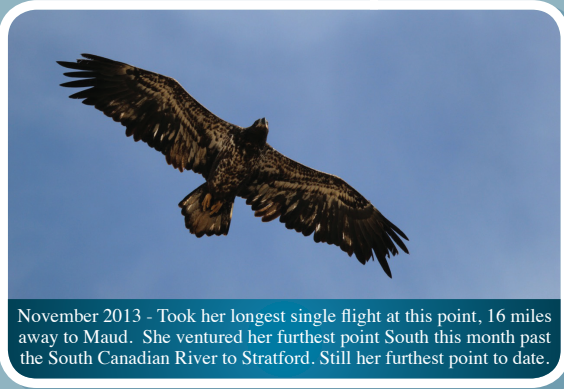
May 10, 2013 - First time back at Aviary grounds. Waiting right outside the aviary when we returned from lunch, almost gone a month on her own.... came back VERY hungry! Continued to eat almost every day the month of May, usually showing up at sunrise vocalizing vigorously waiting on the platform for a meal. She reached over 1000 feet high when flying for the first time during the month.



July 2013 - She began to venture around local Tribal properties; Iron Horse, Golf course, Pecan Farm, Administration, and even frequented a Tribal members pond. She stayed within a five mile radius of the Aviary.



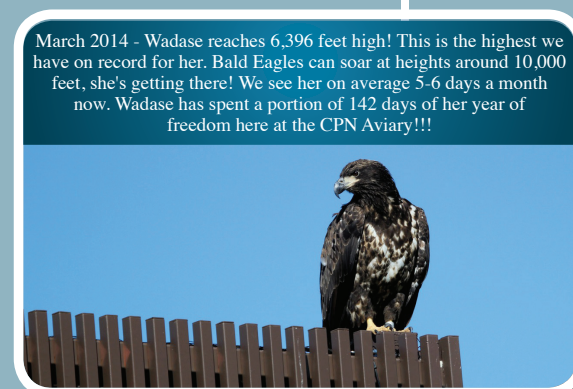
September 2013 - This month marked the most days without seeing Wadase, 18 days... Although this is somewhat bittersweet, it's what we want, she's thriving on her own!



November 2013 - Took her longest single flight at this point, 16 miles away to Maud. She ventured her furthest point South this month past the South Canadian River to Stratford. Still her furthest point to date.



January 2014 - This month brought more adventures for Wadase; crossed Interstate-40 heading north for the first time since her release. Venturing as far north as Prague Lake, went as far to the east and west boundaries of Pottawatomie county lines as she had been.



March 2014 - Wadase reaches 6,396 feet high! This is the highest we have on record for her. Bald Eagles can soar at heights around 10,000 feet, she's getting there! We see her on average 5-6 days a month now. Wadase has spent a portion of 142 days of her year of freedom here at the CPN Aviary!!!

2014

Q&A with

As Wadase was prepared for release, Robert Domenech, Executive Director of the Raptor View Research Institute, travelled to Oklahoma to assist CPN Eagle Aviary staff members Jennifer Randell and Bree Dunham attach the GPS telemetry harness. Now, a year out from his work that overcast April afternoon, Domenech spoke with the Hownikan about his work and Wadase.

How long have you been tracking birds?

"We have been tracking Golden Eagles with satellite telemetry since 2007. To date, we have fit transmitters on approximately 40 birds. Some of our Golden Eagles were captured while on fall migration along the Rocky Mountain front in Montana winters and as far south as Arkansas and central Mexico. In the summer they've gone as far

north as the Brooks Range on the north slope of Alaska. The majority have been during the winter in New Mexico and Colorado."

How much information did you think CPN would get from Wadase when we released her?

"You never know. My first concern was that she might de-instrument herself, which she could have done fairly easily given we set the harness with a "break-away" connection point at the breast patch. My other concerns were that she may have run into trouble with the many human-caused risk factors facing eagles in this modern world. Major threats include electrocution,

eagle expert Robert Domenech

vehicle collision and lead poisoning from eating gut piles and dead animals killed with lead-based ammunition.

In general, how does Wadase's release and data compare to other birds you've tracked?

"This is the first bald eagle and first soft release we have ever been involved with. In general, I would have to say, she is doing great. If you get a year of data you can't complain. Anything after that is a bonus. She has proven herself to be a survivor and I am optimistic she will continue to do well, giving important glimpses into the details of her life."

How does this information help you study birds?

"It helps us to learn more about the eagles' natural histories, how they utilize the landscape, where they feed, where they roost and

much more. It also helps to understand more about causes of mortality should they die, though obviously we hope they don't. We can then address such causes and make changes where possible."

How rare is it that she stays so close and frequents the aviary grounds?

"I can only guess. Given she never had any parent eagles to teach her the ways, she seems to depend on the aviary as a 'home base'. There, she knows she can get a meal and interact to some degree with other eagles. Like any teenager, I suspect she'll eventually move on, but stop in from time-to-time to mooch off her 'parents' at the aviary."

Anything else you would like to add?

"I just want to say what a pleasure and privilege it was and continues to be for me to be a

small part of this historic event for the aviary and the citizenry of the CPN. You all made me feel very much at home! I would also like to thank Bill Voelker and Troy of the Comanche's for making this connection possible. I learned so much from everyone involved.

Finally I want to commend Bree and Jennifer for their successes in building and maintaining an incredible facility for unreleasable eagles to live out their lives and help people learn about these incredible creatures."

If you would like to learn more about the CPN Eagle Aviary, please visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/culture/eagle-aviary>. For more information about Robert Domenech's work with the Raptor View Research Institute, please visit www.RaptorView.org.

Wadase Update: April 2014

Winter's chill still lingers in the evening air, but spring has arrived and today the aviary pasture is teeming with her sights and sounds. The mid-day sun warms the ground as a pair of red-tailed hawks call to one another while they soar back and forth together in lazy circles near the north end of the pasture. Warm sunshine covers the downy Great-Horned Owlets who are just big enough to peer out from their hollow in the old pecan tree south of the aviary.

Occasionally, a Great Blue Heron flies east across the aviary grounds carrying nest material to the rook in the adjoining pasture and when the eagles here at the aviary vocalize looking up towards the sky we scramble for binoculars and camera in hopes that it might be Wadase Zhabwe coming in to visit, but most days the calls are for the wild bald eagles that frequent the area more often than they are for Wadase.

During the winter snow and ice she stayed close to the aviary and took advantage of food offered here but with milder weather she doesn't depend on us to supplement her food. Now she visits the aviary on average five or six times a month. Since last fall



her GPS backpack battery has been staying fully charged and we have had a consistent download of data and that is a relief as she is beginning to venture further from the aviary.

While she has spent the majority of her time on or near the North Canadian River here in Pottawatomie County she has visited the South Canadian and the Deep Fork River along with visits to Wes Watkins Reservoir and Prague Lake venturing into Lincoln, Creek, Oklahoma, Seminole, Pontotoc and McLain counties.

While Wadase will not search for a mate this spring, she will continue to hone her hunting and flying skills. After reviewing all



of her telemetry data we had noted that she has been flying up to 3,000 feet, but the first week of March she reached the staggering height of 6,396 feet. Most likely catching a ride on a thermal updraft, she more than doubled her highest recorded flights to date. Bald eagles can reach up to 10,000 feet when soaring and she is well on her way to reaching those lofty heights.

She continues to embody every aspect of the meaning of her Native American Aviary to band and fit and eagle with a GPS telemetry backpack. We look forward to the celebration of the anniversary of her release as we look back at the year of changing seasons that she endured and the challenges she faced and conquered with a true Potawatomi spirit. In addition, we look forward to the spring migration of wintering eagles as we hope Wadase stays close but know that she has the skills to thrive wherever summer finds her.

opportunity to return one of our prayer warriors to the wild, but more than that, fortunate to have had the opportunity to watch her develop and share that time and space with her and share those experiences with our tribal members.

We are thankful that our tribal leadership supported this endeavor as we became the first Native American Aviary to band and fit and eagle with a GPS telemetry backpack. We look forward to the celebration of the anniversary of her release as we look back at the year of changing seasons that she endured and the challenges she faced and conquered with a true Potawatomi spirit. In addition, we look forward to the spring migration of wintering eagles as we hope Wadase stays close but know that she has the skills to thrive wherever summer finds her.

For more information or to read previous updates please visit <http://www.potawatomi.org> and search the site for Wadase or visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/about-wadase>.



- The CPN Eagle Aviary opened in 2012. Since then, the aviary has become home to 14 bald eagles, 8 males and 6 females.
- Eagles live 20-25 years in the wild and can live more than 50 years in captivity.
- A juvenile bald eagle was transferred from Maitland, Fla. to Shawnee, Okla., a distance of 1,300 miles.



The difference a Potawatomi scholarship makes

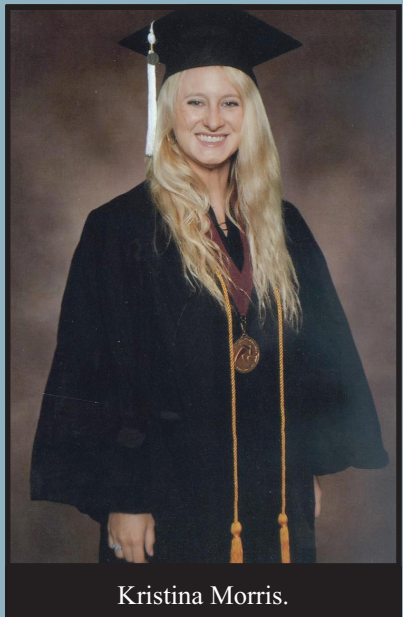
By Kristina Morris

As a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, I want to express how much it means to be given financial support throughout my years in college. I am from Jacksonville, Fla. and am a descendant of Nora Ellen Edwards and the LeClair family. My grandfather, Bobby Gene Morris, is who I truly accredit my family’s involvement and connection with the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. For the past four years of my life, I have been granted the tribal roll scholarship, which has helped me during my time as a student at the Florida State University.

College is no doubt expensive, and the support I received each semester was extremely beneficial to me. It allowed me to maintain my place of residence and provide for myself while living away from home. Therefore, while in school

at FSU, I wanted to do something that would give back to the American Indian community and make me proud of my heritage. I joined the American Indian Student Union at FSU and became the co-President of this organization in 2010. I helped plan events that increased campus awareness of Native American history during Native American Heritage Month each November.

I felt like I was making a difference on campus, all in honor of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, who provided such great assistance throughout college. These experiences also brought me closer to my ancestry. Being a part of the American Indian Student Union on campus brought me closer to other Native American students and those who were genuinely interested in the culture. At a place like



Kristina Morris.

FSU, which bases its mascot and symbolism in Native American roots, it felt great to give others a more meaningful perspective into the history, culture, and present state of Native Americans across

the country.

I graduated Cum Laude from FSU in August 2013, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Affairs and Spanish, and was selected to be a Garnet and Gold Scholar. Part of what let me achieve this recognition was the leadership position I possessed in the American Indian Student Union, and my determination to keep the club active and running. I chose to go into my specific academic field because of my interest in other cultures, countries and cross-cultural communication. I have studied Spanish for nine years and had the opportunity to study and work abroad in Valencia, Spain through FSU International Programs. Therefore, my combined double major suits me perfectly.

Professionally, I hope to teach or

work for a non-profit organization. I have many interests that I can’t wait to explore, but I know that I enjoy helping others profoundly. I am currently awaiting acceptances to programs abroad to teach English in Spain for a year. After that I would like to continue my studies in a Masters program abroad, either in Spanish or International Relations.

I would encourage all young members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation to take the time to apply for this scholarship. Without a doubt, this scholarship has helped me through my years at the Florida State University. I owe the Citizen Potawatomi Nation a massive thank you. I will never forget my ancestry, where I came from, and the rich history that Native Americans have. I am so proud to be a descendant of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Potawatomi Cornerstone

By Charles Clark, Director, CPN Tribal Rolls

Welcome to another edition of the Potawatomi Cornerstone. This issue introduces Beverly Fentress, a member of the Shipshewano ancestral family. You may not have seen or met her at the tribal complex, but if you visit the Cultural Heritage Center you will definitely see her work.

As you walk into the main atrium, you will see five of her works hanging up near the dome ceiling. The remaining eleven works are arranged in different locations throughout the main museum floor. These large acrylic paintings were commissioned when the Cultural Center was completed. They are reminiscent of our Nation’s past, present and future.

That is just a sample of her work however. Beverly’s art career began in the sixth grade. While other kids were still using crayons and finger painting, Beverly was already using acrylic on canvas. Her mom would take the paintings to work and sell them. By the time she was in junior high, she had already had a savings account from the proceeds of her art work.

Beverly learned early on that her artistic talents were a means of connecting with others her feelings and ideas of life. She said that her art “...gives a better perspective and respect for family and friends, present and past.”

To her, like any good artist, the work comes first, the money second.

After she finished school Beverly



Beverly with her work, "We Honor You."

begin her career as a physical therapist, and is going on for thirty years in that path. Most of patients are children with physical disabilities, either congenital or afflicted by accident or disease.

“The pain in these kids is very eye opening,” Beverly stated, adding that her art work plays an equally important role when working with these children. “Sometimes, verbal instructions are just not enough.” In her experience, art helps these children to better understand what they must do for themselves and to deal with their disability physically and emotionally.

Beverly’s work is not limited to

acrylic though. Her choice of mediums includes charcoal, pen and ink, pencil, oil, watercolor and mixed. As a nationally recognized artist and member of the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, her advice as a professional is to work and experiment in different mediums.

“There are a lot of different kinds of art out there in today’s market,” she said. “If you want to stand out and have that competitive edge, you must be able to adapt to an ever changing market.”

Looking at her work you will see a variety of style and use of mediums. Being a Native American, it comes naturally for

her to paint what is reflective in that style. Over the years she brought a lot to the Native American Art scene in realism, abstract and impressionism. Her favorite subject matter to paint in is buffalos.

“The buffalo represents the past and the many changes this land has undergone in the last couple of hundred years.”

Like our culture, the buffalo once roamed this land in the millions. Today there are but a few herds allowed to roam free.

Beverly also pointed out that each one of her paintings, regardless of genre or style, has a different



Turn of Key Events

statement. A style she says is representational, the internal meaning that comes out in the paint, is one of her favorite aspects during the creative process.

An example would be her mixed media work called Turnkey of events, pictured here. In this abstract, wisdom is turned around as represented by the keys and the unbalanced scales lady justice is holding represents a failed system.

“If we don’t use them [wisdom and justice] right our lives become lost, of who we are and what we stand for,” said Beverly.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Beverly resides in Oklahoma City, but is always a regular face and smile around the Cultural Heritage Center. She has been married for 35 years and has two grown sons.



According to Tribal legend, beans, corn and squash are three sisters who only grow and thrive if planted together.

May and June when nighttime temperatures are above 50 degrees. Plant six to eight corn kernels 1-1½” deep in a small circle. –Remember to water, if it isn’t raining, and gently weed.

• When corn stalks are about six inches tall, plant your beans

around your corn stalks. Plant six to eight bean seeds 1” deep around the corn stalks. Then plant four squash or pumpkin seeds around the bean seeds 1”deep, closer to the edge of your mounds.

• As the beans grow you may

need to help at first by wrapping them around the corn stalk.

• Water once a week if it isn’t raining.

Harvesting the three sisters

• Corn- Harvest when the silk is a dark brown.

• Beans- Harvest fresh, when pods are firm but before the seeds swell. They are mature when they are dry on the vine.

• Squash- Winter squash should be picked when the skin is thoroughly hardened. Summer squash may be picked as baby squash or allowed to grow larger.

Preparing and cooking the three sisters may be done in a variety of ways either together or separately. Look for a few recipes combining all three sisters in the next *Hownikan* or experiment and create your own.

Native youth’s perspective: Advice from teens for parents

BJ Trousdale, Director, FireLodge Youth Council

Have you ever heard the saying, “Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a wall”?

It is a humorous quote and one many can relate to, but adolescence can more easily be navigated and understood when we actually listen to those in the middle of childhood and young adulthood. The Tribal youth programs at Citizen Potawatomi Nation intentionally seek young people’s input and voices in structuring our goals and activities. Research tells us that although they are considered legal adults at the age of 18 who are capable of starting their own lives, the brain is not fully developed until at least the age of 24. Some research even points to 30 as the age of full maturation of brain development.

Parents generally have the best of intentions. We set standards with our children and strive to guide them towards an adulthood that we wish we had, all the while ensuring they are safe, happy, and successful.

In an effort to acknowledge their opinions and give them a voice, we interviewed five youth between the ages of 12 and 17 involved in the FireLodge Youth Program. We asked them to write an article about five important tips

they would give their own parents if given the opportunity.

1. **“Be supportive of our decisions and stay calm and relaxed.”** - Teens are learning to become adults, so we must give them opportunities to make their own decisions. Recognize that if they make the wrong decision along the way, they will still learn a valuable lesson from that experience. Young people also recommend having a sense of humor. Laugh at yourself or your kids whenever you can. For some parents, the transition from making all decisions to only some decisions is difficult, but it may also be the best learning tool for teenagers who are striving to become adults.

2. **Please don’t “hover” or get “all up in my business.”** - Young people know that you need reassurance and they even want and expect you to keep a close eye on them... from a distance of course. At the same time, they are innately and biologically driven and designed to begin living their own life. Stay involved with them, define your roles and ask questions. “You raised me, now trust me,” is one comment we found to be very reaffirming.



Jadyn Haney, Ashley Murdock, Trae Trousdale and Alex Holt were some of the FireLodge Youth members interviewed. Not pictured Yannah Harjo.

3. **“I don’t mind a lecture, just make it valuable to me”** - Teens do recognize when you are being “100 percent” with them. They strongly desire parents who share their own experiences and teach life lessons based on their own lives. This is easily accomplished when parents are honest about their own lives and personal experiences. We suggest adults use their discretion about how much to share but realize that your teen is likely dealing with similar

experiences.

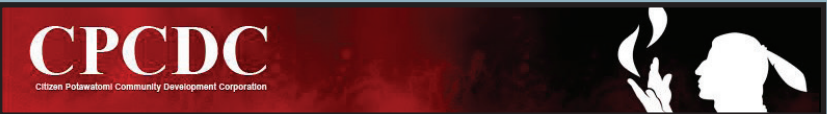
3. **“Pay attention and listen when I’m speaking”** -

Everyone is guilty of getting distracted from communication with one another. As parents, it might be at the end of a long, hectic day when we have a lot on our minds and need to de-stress. Or it might be technology that takes our attention away, as cell phones, television or taking laptops home to work can all be culprits. Teens want your undivided attention and often at

the most inopportune times, but it’s important you take every opportunity to give them the attention when they crave it. As one youth stated, “If we are in a disagreement and I’m trying to explain myself or my actions, the most frustrating thing to hear you say is ‘Quit talking back.’ I can’t even speak to my parent when I really need to!” One tool youth desperately need to learn is respectful confrontation and discussion. Model this behavior first and then allow them to respond calmly rather than shutting them down and giving them no outlet to work through conflicts.

4. **“Don’t let us get away with things.”** – This was something, I think, all parents need to hear. Young people are extremely intelligent and usually know when what they are doing is wrong. So don’t hesitate to call them out on it. In a loving, private manner of course! You are helping them figure out how to do the right thing while also helping them to not feel embarrassed. Additional suggestions included holding them to a bedtime, requiring the use of alarm clocks, communicating expectations and treating them and their siblings in a fair manner.

Pronto Print Inc. looks to future with help of CPCDC



By Jessica Tucker, Loan Document Specialist

You are starting your own business and need marketing material printed. Well, Pronto Print Inc. in Ardmore, Okla. is a one stop shop for all of your business and marketing needs.

Robert and Brandy Rogers have owned Pronto Print Inc. since October 2009, five years after Robert began working there. Robert has been in the screen print industry since 1994, while Brandy has been in retail and marketing just as long. Brandy received her degree from the University of Oklahoma in Business Management and Communication in 2004, which allowed them to widen their clientele spectrum. Now, according to Brandy, that knowledge has allowed the marketing to take over and allowed contracts to be signed.

As they were already familiar with the business, they were intrigued when the former owner was ready to sell. With Robert already knowing the clientele list, the Rogers wanted to increase their market.

Since their purchase in October 2009, they have grown their business 50 percent according to

Brandy.

“The economy impacted our business by making us be cautious about different decisions,” she said. “However, the economy did give us the opportunity to purchase a building that was five times the size we were previously in for an extremely reasonable price.”

Brandy said that not only do she and Robert have a family to support, which drives Pronto Print Inc. to succeed, but their employees also have family to support as well. The Rogers have the drive for success, but they also care about the people who work for them, saying that they want help take care of their employees and work hard to do so.

“Our staff and their families are reliant upon us,” said Brandy.

The Rogers, who are devoted to their own family, enjoy the ability to spend time away from the business, but are willing to work hard to have those off hour opportunities.

One day they want to venture over to other business projects



Robert, Tyler and Brandy Rogers.

and allow Pronto Print Inc.’s operations run itself.

According to Brandy, the Rogers learned of Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation through the Chickasaw Small Business Development Group after exhausting all their knowledge there.

“CPCDC has been a tremendous help with our business at the beginning of the purchase as well as throughout our ownership. Staff members like Bob Crothers, Felecia Freeman,

Cindy Logsdon and Shane Jett have all been wonderful. As a senior commercial lender, Bob is at the top of my go to list when we start looking at other ventures,” stated Brandy. “When you take into consideration the amount of knowledge and experience this group has, it is some of the greatest that can be mentored into people who are willing to learn.”

Pronto Print Inc. does much more than basic printing needs. They do screen printing, signage, embroidery, banners, promotional items and can cover all aspect of your business forms and

marketing needs.

They are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday with 12 employees with hopes of adding four more by the end of summer. Give them a call at 800-375-1612 or visit their website at www.prntoprintusa.com. No matter your location, they are willing to work with you.

CPCDC is a Native American small business lender. If you are interested in a loan like Roger and Brandy’s please call 405-878-4697 or visit www.CPCDC.org.

CPN Family Reunion 2014: A look at what to expect

Each June, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation gathers for the annual Family Reunion Festival, which provides an opportunity for tribal members and families to celebrate their heritage. The festivities this year are scheduled for June 27 to 29.

This year’s family reunion festival will honor the Bruno, Darling, Hardin, Higbee, Lewis, Nadeau, Slavin and Smith families

The event kicks off bright and early Friday morning as registration opens at 8 a.m. Festivities for the weekend-long event will run over the next two days, finally closing with the annual volleyball tournament on the Pow-wow Grounds Sunday at 3 p.m.



Attendees participate in the gourd dance at the 2013 Family Reunion festival.

Dennette Summerlin, CPN Administrative Assistant to Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, helps

organize the event every year.

“If you are a member of one of the

honored families, we encourage you to take that time to join us for the family reunion festival,” said Summerlin. “Families travel from far and near to enjoy a weekend full of activities from night golf to volleyball, softball to basketball, youth arts and crafts to appliqué classes. There is something for everyone, no matter their age.”

In conjunction with fun and games, the festival is also a time to cast ballots for legislative and executive positions in the tribal government.

District 5, held by Gene Lambert, and District 6, represented by Rande Payne, will go uncontested. Also going uncontested will be Vice-Chairman Linda Capps and Secretary Treasurer D. Wayne Trousdale’s positions in the

executive branch of the tribal government.

The two districts with contested elections for a seat in the tribal government will be District 7 and District 8.

District 7 incumbent Mark Johnson will face challenger Michael Bourbonnais. District 8’s current legislator, Dave Carney, is being challenged by Clyde Slavin.

The tribe encourages anyone eligible for District 7 and District 8 to vote and participate in electing their representative for their district.

More details on exact event plans will follow. For more information visit the Family Reunion page at www.potawatomi.org/culture/family-reunion-festival.

Potawatomi author revisits 1971 U.S. invasion of Laos in new book

As the Vietnam War entered its second decade, American policy makers made another attempt at severing the Communists’ Ho Chi Minh Trail, which crept along the porous borders of Laos and Vietnam. Tribal member Robert Sander, a helicopter pilot with the 101st Airborne, took part in the operation. More than twenty years after the operation, which failed to halt the line of supplies to the Communist forces, a session of light reading about the doomed operation piqued an interest into the various political, military and geostrategic decisions made which sent him and his fellow soldiers into battle.



Sander, pictured here during his service in Laos and Vietnam.

Now, with Operation Lam Son 719 more than 40 years behind him, the former chopper pilot has published an in-depth examination of the 1971 military operation. The Navarre-family descendant sat down with the *Hownikan* to discuss his experiences in uniform, the motivation in digging up such personally painful memories and the positives to finishing his book.

Tell us a bit about yourself in terms of where you came from, and how you ended up connected to the operation that forms the central theme of your book.

“I grew up on a farm west of Seiling, Oklahoma. I graduated from Seiling High School in 1964 and continued my education at Oklahoma State University. During my first two years at OSU all male students were required to attend Reserve Officer Training Corps classes, which I continued during my junior and senior years. Upon graduation in 1968, I was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and attended the Artillery Officers Basic Course at Fort Sill, Okla. followed by Ranger training at Fort Benning, Ga. In 1969 I volunteered for flight training and duty in Vietnam. After flight school I received orders to attend the Aviation Maintenance Officers Course at Fort Eustis, Va. followed by the AH-1G, Cobra Gunship training course at Savannah, GA. I was promoted to captain in 1970 and arrived in Vietnam in early 1971. I was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division.”

What was it like serving as a Native American during that time?

“While I was aware of my Native American heritage, I really never gave it much thought and doubt that those who knew me were aware of my heritage. Occasionally, in social settings, someone would ask if I was if I was ‘Indian’ or Hispanic. When I replied ‘Potawatomi’, some thought I was pulling their leg, and that Potawatomi was just a made-up name. For the majority of my time in Vietnam I was assigned to D Company, 158th Assault Helicopter Battalion, whose call sign, ironically, was ‘Redskin.’

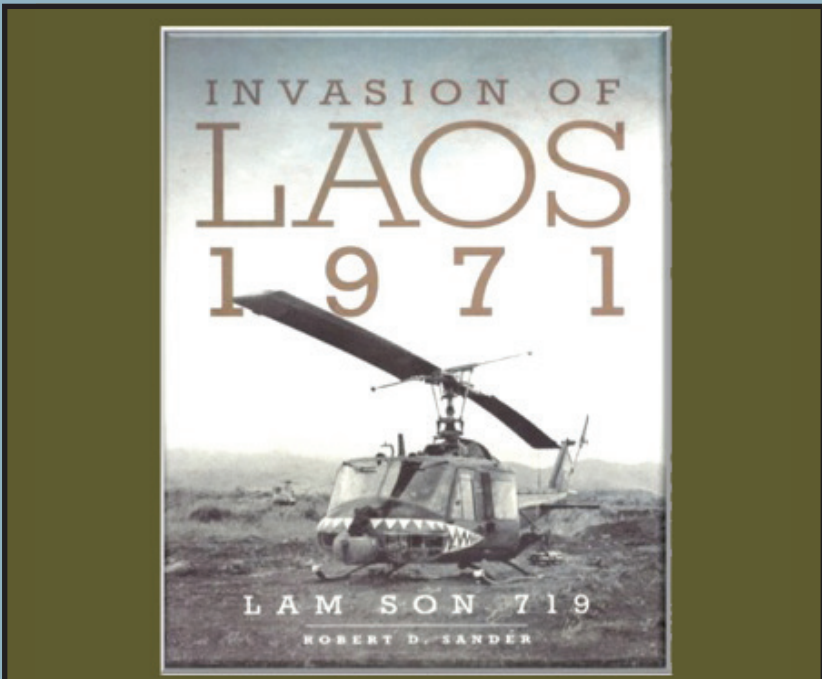
As a result, while some are offended by this term, I wear it with pride.”

You’ve explained that completing this work was a labor love. Why go to such an effort?

“The topic is one that digs deep into my emotions. I never wrote the book with a view toward personal profit or recognition. It is not an autobiography. My name appears only on the cover. I guess that more than anything it is a tribute to my ‘band of brothers.’

Some of the fallout of Lam Son 719 was a brief but intense squabble between the Army and Air Force as well as efforts by the major players in the policy decision to fix blame on anyone but themselves. It is not necessarily a part of our history that generates pride in our national leadership.”

As you look back over your years of research and writing, what are some insights you’ve uncovered about the book’s main topic?



The Political Planning And Military Execution Of One Of The Most Costly Losses Of The Vietnam War

In 1971, while U.S. ground forces were prohibited from crossing the Laotian border, a South Vietnamese Army corps, with U.S. air support, launched the largest airborne operation in the history of warfare, Lam Son 719. The objective: to sever the North Vietnamese Army’s main logistical artery, the Ho Chi Minh Trail, at its hub, Tchepone in Laos, an operation that, according to General Creighton Abrams, could have been the decisive battle of the war, hastening the withdrawal of U.S. forces and ensuring the survival of South Vietnam. The outcome: defeat of the South Vietnamese Army and heavy losses of U.S. helicopters and aircrews, but a successful preemptive strike that met President Nixon’s near-term political objectives.

“Operation Lam Son 719 was an attempt to sever the North Vietnamese supply and infiltration routes in Laos known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail. While a lot of people like to believe that the U.S. won all the battles during the Vietnam War, which is not the case. Lam Son 719 is but one example.

In late 1970, Congress attached an amendment to the defense appropriations bill that prohibited American ground troops from crossing the borders of Laos and Cambodia. Yet there was a legal loophole that excluded air support and the attempt to sever the Ho Chi Minh Trail went forward with South Vietnamese ground forces supported by U.S. firepower. It was the largest airborne operation in the history of warfare and the armada of Army helicopters supporting the South Vietnamese flew into an unprecedented anti-aircraft environment that grew in intensity and lethality for 42 days. It was a defining event that shaped the lives of the pilots and aircrews involved, whose memories of friends lost have never faded.”

How did you come to the

Central Intelligence Agency, and interviewed other veterans.

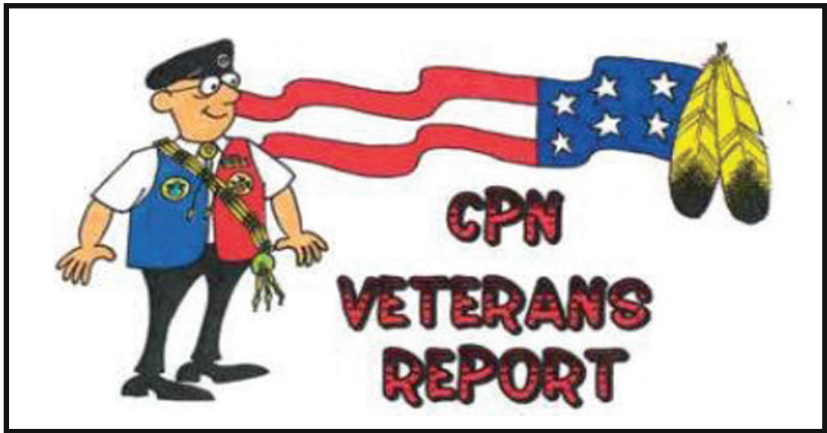
The decision to write the book was inspired by the CPN’s support for veterans and was confirmed in 2010 when I attended the services for two of my friends whose remains had recently been recovered and brought home. The book is by no means an individual effort. It is the result of a collaborative effort on the part of Mike Sloniker, who is the historian for the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, Dr. Charles Rankin, Editor of the University of Oklahoma Press, and distinguished historians who assisted me in locating important documents and reviewed my manuscript. It is my hope that this book will bring a greater sense of closure for Vietnam veterans and their families and a greater understanding of a small slice of our national history.”

You’ve obviously dug up some painful memories, but have you experienced any closure or sense of reward as a consequence of your work?

“One of the most rewarding experiences I had while writing this book occurred when the University of Oklahoma sent the manuscript out for review. In it, I noted that I had difficulty in accepting the official cause of death for some of the casualties. Some were written off as an ‘accident’ when in my opinion, the death was directly attributable to the combat environment - and I cited an example.

As it turned out, one of the pilots killed in this ‘accident’ was a family member of a U.S. Air Force civilian historian selected to review the manuscript. Some of details of his death were never disclosed to the family. That historian and I have since become close friends and she was of immeasurable assistance in assisting me to dig up some important documents that I would have otherwise never found. I would like to think I brought a little closure to that family.”

Robert Sander currently lives in Oklahoma City and is easing into retirement and his role as a grandfather and amateur historian. His book, “Invasion of Laos 1971” is available on Amazon.com and from the University of Oklahoma Press at www.oupress.com.



Bozho,

PTSD - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. What is it?

Staff Sgt. Ty Carter, recipient of the Medal of Honor, has two words for soldiers suffering from PTSD.

“Get help.”

Staff Sgt. Carter developed post-traumatic stress disorder after his experiences at Combat Outpost Keating, where he said, “every day was like the Wild Wild West.”

CPN’s House of Hope promotes Sexual Assault Awareness Month

The CPN House of Hope offers free community assistance programs in the areas surrounding the tribal headquarters which focus on child abuse, sexual assault, and other domestic violence issues. For the month of April, the family violence program will focus on Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a nationally recognized initiative.

The Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network, which promotes Sexual Assault Awareness Month, is the largest organization dedicated to anti-sexual violence. Their goal is to put a stop to sexual assault,

which according to their website www.rainn.org, occurs once every two minutes in America.

“That’s a startling statistic and one of the many reasons why we want to get the word out that the House of Hope is here to help,” said Amanda Chapman, Prevention Coordinator for HOH. “This is not just a problem in Oklahoma, this is a national issue that must be addressed.”

Staff at HOH will work alongside the Pottawatomie and Lincoln County Coordinated Community

Response Team as well. The groups partner throughout the year to prevent domestic violence in Pottawatomie and Lincoln counties in central Oklahoma.

The two programs will also hold their annual “Sexual Assault Advocate and Law Enforcement Awards,” which recognizes individuals who make an effort to help those affected by sexual assault. This year’s event will take place at 10 a.m. on April 10 in Chandler, Okla. at the Lincoln County Courthouse and is open to the public.

survival mechanism in overdose and it can become problematic following extreme trauma.

Going through counseling is a difficult process, but it is the only way to heal, and it is the only way to help both yourself and others. Education is the only thing that can end the stigma.

We have many military people returning home who will need help, but most of all they will need understanding. We owe them that understanding. Migwetch!

Remember the CPN Veterans Organization is planning a banquet to honor CPN men and women who served in the armed forces during the Vietnam War (5 August 1964 to 7 May 1975). Members of the

Citizen Potawatomi Nation who were in the military during that time, please contact us so we can get a head count for scheduling the Vietnam War Veterans’ Banquet. Contact:

Stacy Coon, Cultural Resources Cultural Heritage Center 1601 South Gordon Cooper Drive Shawnee, OK 74801-9002

Remember the CPN Veterans organization meets every month on the fourth Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans and their families are welcome.

Daryl Talbot, Commander

page, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Family Violence Program, in addition to running public service announcements on KGFF radio.

To learn more about FireLodge Children and Family Services, House of Hope and the CPN Domestic Violence Program, please visit their website or call 405-275-3176. For those in need of an advocate outside normal business hours, please call the CPN Police Department at 405-878-4818.

House of Hope will advertise the issue through their Facebook

GOVERNMENT
Zisbaktokégises (April 2014)
People of the Fire

District 8 challenger Clyde Slavin willing to shake things up

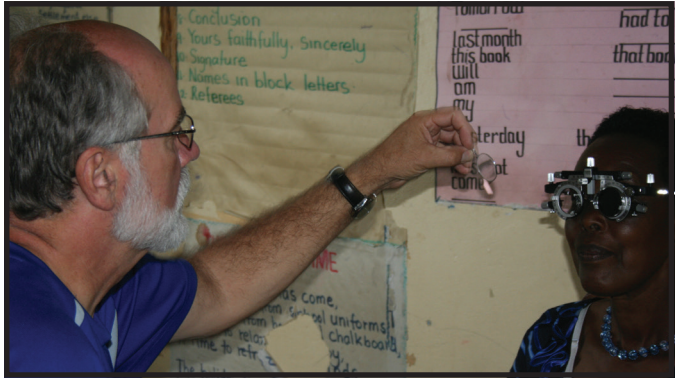
Election season is in full swing in two CPN legislative districts holding competitive races this year. Challenging incumbent Dave Carney for the District 8 seat is Vancouver, WA, resident Clyde Slavin.

The now retired optometrist was born in Holdenville, Okla., but moved to the West Coast in 1961 when his father, a school teacher, took a position in Dinuba, Calif. Slavin’s move followed two major migrations of Oklahomans to California. Best known from the John Steinbeck classic, “The Grapes of Wrath,” the first exodus took place in the 1930s Dust Bowl and was followed by the 1940s’ emigration of ‘Okie and

that Slavin learned more about the importance of his ancestors to the Tribe’s establishment in Oklahoma.

To escape the Irish potato famine in the mid-1800s, his great-grandfather, James Slavin and his brother Thomas travel ed to St. Mary’s Mission in Kansas, then-home of what would become the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

“In my opinion, one of the most important figures in the Slavin family wasn’t even a Native American, but an Irishman,” explained Slavin. “Both brothers married Potawatomi women, and Thomas eventually made sure all of the children, including my grandfather, made it



Slavin giving eye exams to locals of Bigodi, Uganda last Nov.

Texan oil field workers to new job opportunities in the then-booming oilfields of California’s Central Valley.

Said Slavin, “We had as many relatives in central California at the time as we did in Oklahoma when we left Holdenville. It seems like I had family of some sort in all of the surrounding towns growing up.”

Upon his graduation from high school, Slavin went on to Reedley College and Optometry School at Pacific University. His career path eventually took him to Vancouver, Wash., where he is today after working for more than four decades as an optometrist.

Slavin knew about his Potawatomi heritage as a youth, in large part because he remembers his family received one of the last settlement checks, but really delved into his family and tribal history following the tribe’s expansion of activities to regions outside of Oklahoma. It was through this further study of all things Potawatomi

to Oklahoma and received their allotments.”

Since his first regional meeting in Portland, Ore. in 1985, Slavin has become an unofficial historian of the Potawatomi, reading



Slavin and Chairman Barrett speak during a District 8 gathering.

any and all material that gives information on the Tribe’s customs and history. This interest includes his familiarity of Potawatomi art, which Slavin has earned the right to boast about. His bronze sculpture of “The Potawatomi Creation

Story” is currently on display at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center.

“Given our Tribe’s specific history, many of our traditions have been mixed with other tribes and cultures,” explained Slavin. “So I have made an effort to study and create Potawatomi art that is truer to what our ancestors created from their homes in the Great Lakes region.”

It’s this passion that has driven Slavin to run for the District 8 seat in the upcoming election.

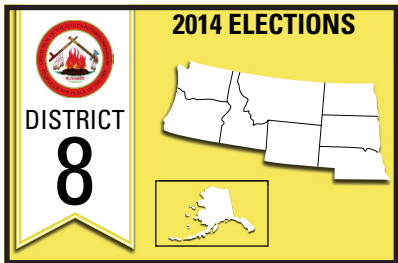
“I’m running because I felt that outside of the general tribal area there is a disconnect and I thought I could connect to the tribe, work with it and help some people. But I think at the national, state and tribal level, there has got to be someone offering an alternative.”

Slavin has said that if he succeeds, he’ll make an effort to get in touch with as many of the district’s citizens as possible given the challenges posed by having people spread across such vast distances. A candidate who has no problem saying he’ll shake things up, Slavin believes that an alternative view is needed going forward.

“I’m bringing up some points that some people might not particularly agree with, but they need to be discussed. Otherwise it will never happen.”

All registered CPN tribal members over the age of 18 on Election Day who live in District 8 are eligible to vote in person or by absentee ballot in the election. For those unable to vote in person during the CPN Family Reunion Festival in June, absentee ballot request forms have been mailed out. Absentee ballots will be mailed out after May 1, 2014. For those interested in learning more about Clyde Slavin he can be reached at clyde.slavin@gmail.com.

Washington’s Dave Carney ready to run on his record



More than thirty thousand CPN tribal members reside across the globe and each has an elected representative. Overseeing the geographically largest district in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s legislature is Olympia, WA.’s Dave Carney, who is currently running for his third term.

lived in Olympia since 1999. His oldest son is at the University of Washington at Seattle. Though a busy family man and real estate agent, Carney initially decided to run for elected office following a two year gap in the region’s representation due the untimely passing of the late Jackie Taylor.

“I had my own ideas on how the job should be done and I felt it was time to do my part,” he explained.

Due to the restructuring



Carney addresses constituents during a District 8 meeting in Missoula, Mont

Born in Rahway, N.J., Carney’s family relocated to the San Francisco area where he attended high school and college. The San Francisco State University alumnus grew up with the knowledge that he was Potawatomi, but due to the tribe’s former citizenship qualifications, was unable to join the tribal rolls until the 1980s. He and his sister Eva Marie Carney, District 2’s legislator, are descendants of Narcisse Juneau, a member of the Tribal business committee who was among the first Potawatomi to scout the original Oklahoma allotments in the 1860s.

“I grew up knowing about my heritage, but like many people in my generation, I didn’t really get into it until I had the opportunity to join the tribal rolls,” said Carney.

“I wasn’t raised in a traditional Potawatomi way, but I have made it my goal to learn as much as I can as a representative and tribal member.”

Along with his wife Nicole and four kids, Carney has

of the Tribal system of government in 2008, Carney was amongst a handful of legislators who initially ran for short terms. In his first



Carney, seen here speaking with Chairman Barrett.

election during the 2009 Family Reunion Festival, Carney was amongst five competitors for the District 8 seat.

“It was my first time to come to Oklahoma, and I was expecting to leave a legislator,” Carney recalled. “Instead, I left as a candidate in a run off for the seat.”

Ultimately successful in that first election, he served a shortened six month term before running again in

2010 for a four year session.

“I initially ran, and am running again, because I felt there was a need for members to have a hands-on person representing them, and that is what I’ve been doing. I’ve got a big district, but I’ve been out across this part of the country meeting with folks.”

Carney’s massive district, which includes the U.S.’ largest state of Alaska, can make meeting with constituents a challenge. Though Carney believes that challenge is being addressed due to his efforts at fostering Potawatomi gatherings, even if he’s unable to attend in person.

“I feel like I’m getting a lot more out of it than what I put in,” he said. “Especially working with elders who have always known they’re Potawatomi but have had a difficult time connecting with their heritage due to the distances between them and the Tribe’s base in Oklahoma. Introducing them to our customs and practices is extremely rewarding.”

With elections approaching in June, Carney says he is proud to stand on his past accomplishments as District 8 legislator.

“As an incumbent, I run on my record. What I said I was going to do, I’ve done. I’m proud of how I’ve built the community up in District 8, and we’ve got some very organic growth without me organizing it. This comes from the outreach I’ve done, and looking at what we’ve done up here to this point, it is my pride and joy.”

All registered CPN tribal members over the age of 18 on Election Day who live in District 8 are eligible to vote in person or by absentee ballot in the election. For those unable to vote in person during the CPN Family Reunion Festival in June, absentee ballot request forms have been mailed out. Absentee ballots will be mailed out after May 1, 2014. For those interested in learning more about Dave Carney, more information can be found at www.dave-carney.com or he can be reached at dcarney@potawatomi.org.

Legislative Update: March 2014

CPN legislators and executive officials met in person and via video conference in February to discuss the Tribe’s legislative business. Only one member of the body, Secretary-Treasurer Trousdale, was absent.

An increase in funding for sanitation facilities construction was approved by all of the session’s attendees. The funding will provide sanitation facilities for individuals as well as assist the City of Tecumseh renovate and upgrade its water treatment plant. Citizen Potawatomi Nation secured the funds from U.S. Indian Health Service grants.

CPN will also submit a grant proposal which seeks to increase

access to storm shelter construction funds after authorization by the tribal legislature. The proposal, titled “Citizen Potawatomi Nation Residential Storm Shelter Program”, if accepted, will assist tribal members and employees who own their homes in areas often impacted by severe weather like Pottawatomie, Cleveland and Oklahoma counties in Oklahoma with funding to build storm shelters.

Legislators passed a resolution approving an infrastructure funding application for industrial park development on tribal trust land. The funding, which comes from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic

Development Administration, will be used in the ongoing construction at the Iron Horse Industrial Park.

Legislators also authorized the CPN Child Development Center’s building application through a funding mechanism available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Those funds, which are under the 2014 fiscal year Indian Community Development Block Grant program, will allow the Child Development Center to serve more families with child care by building an additional child development center.

Following Justice James G. Write’s announcement declining

to serve another term on the CPN Supreme Court, the legislature amended a nomination resolution removing him from future consideration for the post. Justice Jane Braugh has been nominated by Chairman John Barrett for another five year term, while the search for a justice to replace the retiring Justice White is currently ongoing.

A Tribal grant application for funding under the Department of Justice’s Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation was also approved, with 15 affirmative votes and one absence. The grant will be used to continue CPN’s efforts at developing comprehensive approaches to

public safety and criminal justice in Tribal jurisdiction.

For the 2014 fiscal year, a funding request to enter into a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior’s Land Buy-Back Program was also approved by a unanimous vote.

In health news, the legislature approved a grant that will access U.S. federal funds to be used to combat substance abuse and improve mental health services, specifically through the use of SAMHSA Treatment Drug Courts.

In citizenship news, 168 applicants for were enrolled as full members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

What is “Indian Land?”

By Charles Meloy, Director, CPN Real Estate Services

When one hears the term “Indian Land,” everyone thinks they know what that is. Yet the truth is that no one knows what it constitutes.

The phrase “Indian land” has no legal definition.

Trust land, restricted land, fee land, and allotted land are phrases that do have legal meaning and are described in general terms below.

• **Trust Land** is land whose deed reads “owned by the United State of America in trust for (tribe or individual).” The effect of this is that the land is only subject to the laws and regulations of the federal government. Sometime the trustee voluntarily submits to state or local laws and regulations to accomplish certain ends, such as to sell alcohol or tobacco. This ceding of power or authority may only be accomplished with the permission of the Federal government though.

Land arrives in trust status via several different avenues including allotment of federally regulated lands such as Indian reservations. It can also be placed into trust at the request of the owner, which CPN does on a regular basis. Land can

also be placed into trust via an act of Congress, which is usually initiated by the owner.

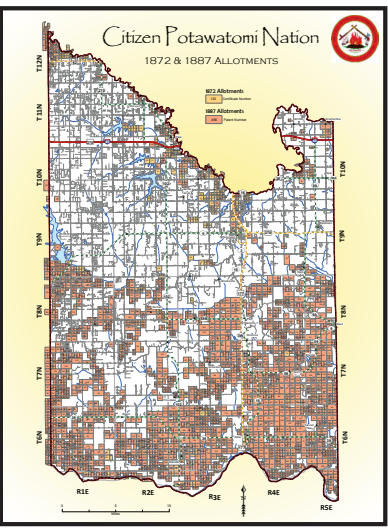
• **Restricted Land** is land whose deed reads “owned by (tribe or individual).” However the deed has a restriction such that the land may not be encumbered without the permission of the Secretary of Interior. This land is subject to some local, county and state authority.

• **Fee lands’** deeds simply read, “owned by (tribe, individual or other legal entity).” This land is of course, subject to local, county, state and federal laws and regulations. Typically land the CPN purchases comes to us in fee.

• **Allotted land** are trust lands that were allotted and given to tribal members at the time of the Dawes Act or in other acts that were enacted to dissolve tribal governments and open reservations to settlement by non-Indians. The acts assigned specific parcels of reservation land to individual tribal members, and the remaining reservation lands were taken by the federal government and opened for settlement. The “allotments” were retained as federal land

and held in trust for the individual who was the named recipient of a specific parcel.

CPN owns land held in many legal forms including most of



those listed above. The Tribe also owns land as follows:

- Fee Simple surface only
- Fee Simple minerals only
- Fee Simple surface and minerals
- Trust land surface only
- Trust land minerals only
- Trust land surface and mineral
- Undivided allotted interest, in fee surface only
- Undivided allotted interest, in fee minerals only
- Undivided allotted interest,

in fee surface and minerals

• Undivided allotted interest, in trust surface only

• Undivided allotted interest, in trust minerals only

• Undivided allotted interest, in trust surface and minerals

The Tribal Department of Real Estate Services (DRES) keeps track of every square inch of that land.

An ongoing activity of DRES is to put fee land purchased by CPN into trust status. Placing property in trust for CPN has many great advantages. The most commonly cited advantage is the avoidance of state and local property taxes, and this is true. However, CPN frequently makes cash payments to local communities to replace tax revenues lost from the activities of CPN. In fact, avoidance of taxes is a minor plus to placing property into trust.

More significant reasons include:

- Tribal control is exerted of development policies and regulations.
- Taxes are collected, but are paid into the Tribal tax system rather than the state or local systems, which is a major source of income for CPN operations.

• Placing property into trust is an expression of Tribal sovereignty and a practical implementation of self-governance.

• It is a proven methodology of building wealth.

• Trust lands become the basis of long term enterprise development.

• It puts assets in a form that is difficult for shortsighted leadership to sell, destroy or misuse.

• It preserves land and wealth for future generations.

When asked how much land CPN owns, the standard response is 10,000 acres and it’s all “Indian Land.”

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Department of Real Estate Services is located in the northwest corner of the second floor of the First National Bank Building, Suite 204. The staff is in their offices most of the time. However, the duties of several of the staff require them to be away from their desks. It is recommended that if you have business with any particular staff member, that you call to set up an appointment by calling (405) 395-0113.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation donates building to Oklahoma Highway Patrol in Pottawatomie County

Citizen Potawatomi Nation Chairman John Barrett and Vice-Chairman Linda Capps handed over the keys for office space to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol in McLoud, Okla. The office is located just northeast of the Grand Hotel Casino Hotel and Resort and will serve as a rest stop and office space for OHP officers working along the Interstate 40 corridor.

“The Oklahoma Highway Patrol reached out to us and we were more than happy to help,” said Vice Chairman Capps. “We had an unused trailer house at The Grand and knew it would be a great fit for them and something that they could immediately get into and utilize. Whenever someone comes to our tribe and asks for help we are always willing to lend a hand and see what we can do to assist. Having this place for OHP to call their own will only help our relationship with them and

strengthen our community.”

OHP’s Troop A patrols the areas surrounding the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, consisting of Canadian, McClain, Cleveland, Oklahoma, Logan, Lincoln and Pottawatomie counties. The group will use the facility for meetings, to complete reports and to take breaks from patrolling.

The office space was used by CPN during the construction of Grand Casino Hotel and Resort. The building has east access to Interstate 40, one of Oklahoma’s major highway systems, a gas station and restaurants.

“We are so grateful for Chairman Barrett, Vice-Chairman Capps and the people of Citizen Potawatomi Nation to allow us to have a place to work so close to the highway. Having a small work space out here will help us out tremendously,” said OHP Trooper



OHP Troop A will use the building as an office and rest stop along Interstate 40.

Troy Thompson. “The location right off the highway and having the truck stop right there to fill

up on gas and get snacks makes our jobs easier. We are forever grateful for the great deeds that

Chairman Barrett, Vice-Chairman Capps and the tribe have given us with the opportunity to be here.”

Grand Casino Hotel and Resort partners with Penn Square Mall to promote tourism

Grand Casino Hotel and Resort has partnered with Penn Square Mall to open the retail space, The Grand Lounge, to promote Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal enterprises and drive tourism in Pottawatomie County.

“Penn Square Mall is excited to welcome The Grand Lounge to its eclectic mix of retailers,” said Donna Berlin, general manager at Penn Square Mall. “This space is truly unique to our center and provides shoppers with the opportunity to relax and learn more about the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort in a resort-style atmosphere.”

The Grand Lounge, which is located near the new state-of-the-art food court and open during regular mall hours, allows shoppers to sit back and relax during an afternoon of shopping in an atmosphere that has been carefully created with the Grand Casino Hotel and Resort’s aesthetic in mind.

“This was a great opportunity for us to try and reach an audience that we hadn’t reached and couldn’t reach in any other way,” said Michael Laffie, director of marketing for Grand Casino Hotel and Resort. “We will be able to reach the 12 million people who visit the mall each year, some of whom may be here on vacation and would not have ever thought to visit our tribal enterprises or the other tourism destinations in Pottawatomie County.”

Shoppers will have the



Executives from the OKC Chamber of Commerce, CPN, the Grand Hotel Casino and Resort and Penn Square Mall attended the ribbon cutting ceremony.

opportunity to sample the resort’s amenities, book hotel rooms, purchase concert tickets and more. In addition, the resort will use the space for meet and greet opportunities with entertainment in town, to preview new food items from the resort’s restaurants and to promote Citizen Potawatomi

Nation tribal enterprises and drive tourism in Pottawatomie County.

“We’re going to bring the resort atmosphere to the people we’re trying to reach,” added Laffie. “We’ll use this space to show off all of the great things happening with Grand Casino Hotel and Resort

and our other tribal enterprises and tourism destinations.”

Citizen Potawatomi Nation will also use this as an opportunity to promote partnerships and tourism destinations other than tribal enterprises.

“We are excited to have another

outlet to promote Shawnee and our community to visitors,” said Kinlee Farris, Executive Director, Shawnee Convention & Visitors Bureau. “We value our relationship with Citizen Potawatomi Nation and we enjoy promoting their attractions to our visitors.”

Potawatomie Poem

By Carolyn Navarre Whitney, Published by The International Library of Poetry

We come from a people of long ago
Who knew the icy winds and mounting snow,
Who tread the course of the white man’s view
From Oklahoma and Kansas our numbers grew.
A gentle people who tended the earth
Knowing very little of its material worth.
They hunted and fished in nearby streams

And often danced to the beat of a warrior’s dreams.
They once envied the falcon with his majestic flight,
But shared common ground with a wolf’s hungry plight.
Fine marksmen and a people of the fire.
Of the loss of human dignity they began to tire.
Time has passed and the tribe has come of age,
No longer content to live in silent race.

For we are Native Americans and proud to be free
We are proud to be—
Potawatomie

CPN Leasing specialist Matt Masilon named to National Tribal Land Association

In the 1860s, when the Citizen Band Potawatomi first scouted what would be become their Tribal jurisdiction in Indian Territory, there were nearly 1,500 allotments belonging to its members. More than a century later, that number is down to 77. Much of this has to do with the intended effects of nineteenth century federal legislation like the Dawes Act, which split the land up amongst tribal citizens in Indian nations across the U.S. Those laws largely worked as intended, as tribal allotments were divided up as each generation passed, diluting their ownership until the land was either sold off, usually to non-Indians, or left unused.

Yet as the twentieth century closed, changes in legislation allowed tribes to begin overseeing land belonging to their members, which was held in trust by the Department of the Interior. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Real Estate Department and staff members like Matt Masilon are responsible for keeping that process running.

“I always tell people to look at the Tribe as a person. The real estate department is the feet of that person,” Masilon explained. “It all starts with us, because without the land, there is no clinic, no administration building or grocery stores. We are the foundation for what brings success to the Tribe.”

A Peltier family member, Masilon had worked in the oil and gas sector prior to joining the tribe as an employee. As a result of the economic downturn, he found himself out of a job in 2011, though he was not particularly interested in going back to the oil and gas sector. A chance meeting with Vice-Chairman Linda Capps during a visit to the CPN Health Clinic led to them discussing Masilon’s hopes for the future.

“I told Ms. Capps in my meeting with her that I wanted to work for an organization that was moving forward and not looking back, and I found it.”

A week later, Masilon received a phone call from Charles Meloy, director of the CPN Real Estate Department and began work.

In his two and a half years as a leasing specialist, Masilon has been responsible for handling oil, gas, farming and grazing leases as well as right-of-ways and easements on CPN-owned property and Tribal trust land. Masilon’s duties necessitate working closely with his fellow real estate department employees, as the procedures for tribal land can be tedious and time consuming.

“We have individuals handling fee-to-trust, probating the estates of trust owners and their Native American trust property as well as purchasing of trust property that will be owned by CPN,” said Masilon. “We all function like a well-oiled machine that works for CPN, its tribal members and our trust owners.”

Because it falls under the federal government’s supervision, tribal trust land is held to a higher standard than privately owned land. Tribal offices across Indian country like CPN’s real estate department ensure that land stays in tribal hands.

“Looking at the number of allotments today compared to what it was when they were first allotted, it shows the need for CPN to maintain its land base in order to provide the services that we do to Native Americans and Tribal members in the area. Our land is used for clinics, grocery stores, elder housing and businesses that bring money into the tribe and the



Matt Masilon.

surrounding communities.”

It was this enthusiasm and knowledge that convinced Masilon to apply for a board position with The National Tribal Land Association.

“I attended a few of their conferences over the years and was always pleased with the information I received and how they put out education and information out to the tribes,” he explained. “When the application arrived for a position on the board of directors, (Real Estate Director) Charles Meloy told me to go for it. I told them that I was ready to bring new ideas to the organization and wanted to make things better for the next 50 years instead of the next five. It seems they liked what I had to say.”

The National Tribal Land Association’s goal is to educate and assist tribes with Indian

land management, ownership and transference issues. Working with tribes and other affiliated organizations across the country, it focuses on helping tribal land owners find profitable ways of managing their land for the betterment of their members.

“It’s a big honor being accepted on to the board of directors. It allows me to bring my ideas and opinions to show other tribes across the country that the model CPN built proves that any Tribe can become successful with hard work and dedication. I truly believe CPN is a prime shining example of that.”

In the context of what the Citizen Potawatomi is currently, where new construction and improving infrastructure are ongoing, the efficacy of the real estate department is plain to see. Indeed, without the work of real estate department staff members like

Masilon, the building this article is being typed in might still be a hospital.

“In my work, I want to show our members that what we do out is for the betterment of the Tribe now and its future,” commented Masilon.

The fact that a tribal member is actively involved in reclaiming and maintaining the lands of the founding families is a special honor for the Tribe.

“I have never worked for an organization that is concerned about its employees the way CPN is,” he added. “It also gives them the tools to live a better and more prosperous life. We have come a long way from the mid-1970s when our administration building was a double wide trailer sitting on our only two acres of land. But look at us now, I couldn’t be prouder.”

RE-ELECT MARK A. JOHNSON

A member of the Vieux and Johnson families

DISTRICT 7 LEGISLATOR



Legislator Mark A. Johnson
District 7, Citizen Potawatomi Nation
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Clovis, CA. 93611
Cell (559)351-0078
Email: Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org
www.markjohnsoncpn.com



In my 34 years as a Professional Firefighter, I have lived by three guiding principals
Honor • Integrity • Cooperation

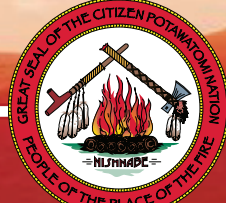
Follow us

THE DEFINITION OF TRIBE IS FAMILY

John A. Barrett

DISTRICT 8

After I am elected to be your representative, I will treat every Citizen Potawatomi in District 8 as my close family



ELECT CLYDE B. SLAVIN

District 8 Representative to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Clyde.Slavin@gmail.com

306-909-3776 cell

519 NW Wildwood Drive, Vancouver, WA

I promise to be the CPN politician that is needed to work with other CPN politicians.

Sovereignty a prime focus under Self-Governance Director Rhonda Butcher

Tribal governments across the United States have access to funding opportunities that the average commercial entity or private citizen does not, but gaining that access isn't straightforward. That process is typically worth it though, as evidenced in the rapid growth in

Citizen Potawatomi Nation's guiding principles, though others may be more familiar with Chairman John Barrett's often heard axiom, "Don't eat the seed corn."

As is the case with any large bureaucracy, capitalizing on grants from the federal

CPN become self-sufficient is reflected in her upbringing. A member of an Air Force family, she spent much of her formative years living in U.S. military installations across the world before finally settling in Beaver, Okla. Butcher was able to attend college through assistance from

A Summa Cum Laude graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University's Registered Nursing program, Butcher began her career as a burn and private surgical nurse. It was this work in the health care sector that initially taught her the nuances of navigating federal policies, specifically in terms of payments. As a utilization reviewer for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, Butcher was responsible for appraising Medicare claims and developing coverage guidelines for one of the state's largest insurers. After taking some time off while her children were younger, Butcher went back to school, graduating from the University of Oklahoma MBA in Business Administration program as Summa Cum Laude.

Butcher's work as a healthcare consultant in the Shawnee, Okla. area initially brought her to the attention of Chairman Barrett, who had asked her to serve as a consultant as the tribe began preparations to enter into self-governance compacts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Indian Health Services (IHS) in the late 1990s.

"Rhonda had worked as a consultant for the Absentee-Shawnee, and I had asked her thoughts on our operations as we entered negotiations with the BIA and IHS," said Chairman Barrett. "After meeting with her, I knew we couldn't pass up the opportunity to bring someone as skilled and knowledgeable as Rhonda on board. Looking solely at our CPN Health Services as they are today is a pretty good indicator that we made the right decision."

With Butcher's assistance, the tribe compacted with IHS in 1998

and with the BIA the next year.

"The federal government's structure is a 'one size fits all' approach, even with good intentions," explained Butcher. "Many of the programs the tribe boasts, from health services to transportation, were handled directly by the U.S. government. With the signing of the compacts, CPN manages our own programs and tailors them to fit our specific needs. What this does in many cases is reduce the administrative costs and get more services to the people who need them."

These arrangements are a stark change from the federal government's policies in the years preceding the 1975 Indian Self-Determination and Education Act. Prior to this, tribal governing bodies across the U.S. were required to have BIA officials involved at almost every level of governance, from getting land put into trust to having a quorum for a tribal meeting.

"Our goal is to use the federal funds that we're eligible for in order to make the Tribe as self-sufficient as possible," said Butcher. "We know what our people need better than someone who isn't here every day. Self-Governance isn't just a department; it is about making the hard decisions and doing the hard work to take care of ourselves."

This approach has paid dividends for the Tribe as it continues to grow. CPN boasts its own CLEET-certified police force, sewage and water systems as well as a host of social and medical programs that serve tribal members, Native Americans of other federal recognized tribes and fellow residents of Oklahoma.



Rhonda Butcher, an interesting Self-Governance director if there ever was one.

services the Citizen Potawatomi Nation offers to the areas surrounding CPN headquarters as well as tribal members nationwide.

"In the end, it's about taking care of ourselves," said Butcher. "That is what the primary role of our office is, to help the tribe access the resources it needs to care for its own affairs."

That simple notion is one of the

government is a time consuming process. Under Butcher, project teams of CPN accounting staff, grant administrators from the Self-Governance office and the tribal department utilizing the funds partner on grant applications. While this procedure can border on the tedious, without it, programs that help thousands of tribal members would not exist.

Butcher's motivation in helping

the federal government as part of her late father's benefit payments as a member of the armed forces.

"I have personally benefited from federal funding, and have seen what good it can do," recalled Butcher. "But I used the opportunities those funds provided to educate myself and advance my career, and I've repaid the money that was spent on my education. That is how the system is supposed to work."

2014 Jim Thorpe Native American Games open at FireLake Arena

Jim Thorpe, whose name evokes traits like honor, respect, and tradition, has left a synonymous mark on what it means to be a Native American athlete. An offshoot of this legacy is the Jim Thorpe Native American Games,

a weeklong ceremony dedicated to Native American athletes, traditions, and games. Though the events have long held their annual events in nearby Oklahoma City, the 2014 event will be held in Shawnee, Okla.

Annetta Abbott, Executive Director for the Jim Thorpe Native American Games, held a press conference at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla. to explain the relocation of the games to Shawnee and how it



Jim Thorpe Games' Anetta Abbott, Access Sports' Scott Hill, Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, CPN Exec. Operations Coordinator Jason Greenwalt, Bill Thorpe, Shawnee Mayor Wes Mainord and Sac and Fox Principal Chief George Thurman all spoke about the Jim Thorpe Games coming to Shawnee, Okla.

will benefit the community.

"Moving the games to Shawnee will not only benefit us, the Jim Thorpe Native American Games, but also the community through the economic benefits," said Annetta Abbott, Executive Director for the games. "We chose this area for Shawnee and the tribes to showcase the great facilities they have around here for competitions like this."

The town of Shawnee is in close proximity to the Sac and Fox, Absentee Shawnee, and Kickapoo tribes as well as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. CPN's enterprises will be utilized for the games. The games' opening ceremony will be held at FireLake Arena, while FireLake Ball Fields will host the softball competitions. The golf competition will take place at FireLake Golf Course, Shawnee's only public course.

CPN's Pow-wow Grounds, which normally host the annual Family Reunion Festival, will also be the site of the stickball competition.

"We are honored to help sponsor these events," stated CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps. "Last year we had a lot of our staff members go to Oklahoma City

and help out. We wouldn't have been able to help with this event if it not had been for our new arena, which we're proud to say will host the opening ceremony. It comes at a busy time for us in the month of June but we're going to double up and we are very excited that we can help with the Jim Thorpe Games. It's a great honor for us to help host the event."

Along with Nike N7, a program developed by Nike to promote healthy living specifically to Native Americans, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a main sponsor of the competition.

"Chairman John Barrett has performed the blessing of the athletes each year during the opening ceremony, and Citizen Potawatomi Nation has always gone above and beyond in being a supporter of our mission," said Abbott.

More than 1,500 Native American athletes will gather for the event in Shawnee on June 8-14, 2014.

For more information and how to sign up to compete at the games, please visit www.jimthorpegames.com.

District 1 — Roy Slavin



Bozho nikanek,

I have just returned to Kansas City after a visit to Shawnee, Okla. where my wife Julia and I went to get an "M&M" fix.

"M" and "M" are Molly and Mathew,

our great-grandchildren. We will be ok now after our fix for a month or so. We timed this visit to coincide with our quarterly legislative meeting where we passed 10 resolutions, one of which involved the enrollment of 161 new CPN members. Welcome to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation!

I want also to mention these legislative sessions are recorded and later put on the tribal website at www.potawatomi.org/government/legislature. Past sessions are also available at this site and may be viewed in their entirety.

As I have mentioned in previous articles there is a wealth of information on this www.potawatomi.org. I get a lot of questions from members in my district about scholarships. At www.potawatomi.org/services/education you will find an explanation about all scholarships available, including information on housing.

That's just one of the things listed under the 'Services' tab on www.Potawatomi.org.

There is also career information (jobs), community health, tag office, housing, Citizenship, veterans, Community and business development, elders, transportation, and the office of environmental health. There is also a listing for news and events, culture, language and enterprises.

I also get questions about eagle feathers. Visit www.potawatomi.org/culture/eagle-aviary where Manager Jennifer Randell has everything you

need to know about acquiring feathers and caring for them, which is very important. It also has Department of Justice policy on Tribal member use of eagle feathers.

I fully intended to visit my favorite place in Shawnee, the aviary, during this trip but due to time constraints I couldn't get there so I will just have to wait until Jennifer writes about Wadase to get my eagle fix. For those of you who have never been to the aviary it's something you should put on your bucket list. It is just a mile east of the intersection Gordon Cooper Drive and Hardesty Road and may be visited by appointment only.

I also want to mention that our language department is now doing on line language classes.

The Beginner class will be Tuesday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. CST and Thursdays 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CST. To join this class, go to www.instantpresenter.com/potawatomi4 a few minutes before the class begins.

The Intermediate/Conversational class will be Tuesday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. CST and Thursday 2:00-3:00 p.m. CST. To join this class, go to www.instantpresenter.com/potawatomi2 a few minutes before the class begins.

Migwetch
Netagtege (Always Planting)
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PO Box 901873
Kansas City, MO. 64190
1-800-741-5767

District 2 — Eva Marie Carney



Bozho nikanek (Hello friends!)

District 2 Illustration/Photo Contest - I feel like the proverbial Maytag repairman, waiting for those repair calls that never come. It is lonely out here in District 2 as I check my inbox and mailbox for entries in the District 2 New Year contest. What I keep looking for are your own original drawings or photographs for use in a CPN-themed calendar, by the midnight, April 15 deadline. There won't be a calendar if I don't get at least 12 entries- it would be a shame not to get this project to the finish line!

All contest details are printed in my February *Hownikan* column, which may be lining your pet bird's cage or cat's litter box by now - but you also can find it on my website, at the following link: <http://evamariemarney.com/blog.php?articles=february14>.

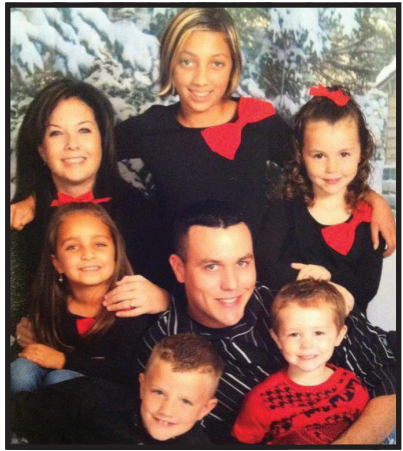
Student Housing Grants - I recently had a chance to visit at some length with the student housing coordinator in the Nation's Housing Department, Raychel Swenson Goodall. Raychel is the mother of five beautiful children, as shown in the photo reprinted here, which she permitted me to share in this column. She brings passion and purpose to her position, which is to ensure that CPN-enrolled students who are obtaining a bachelor's degree or higher, on a full-time basis, and who have been granted the Nation's full \$1500 scholarship, also receive housing assistance of \$675 per

semester. She is proud to be part of the lives of students who are pursuing higher education and expressed her delight at "putting a face to a name" when she has the chance to meet up with a CPN student-scholar with whom she has interacted by phone or email on housing assistance matters. Her goal is to ensure that everyone who qualifies for Student Housing funding receives this benefit.

The opportunity to visit came up because our son Marshall currently is receiving the Tribal scholarship but had not gotten the application for housing assistance and I had called to ask after it. (It turns out that since he just met the scholarship deadline, his scholarship award had just been approved and his housing grant application was in the mail.) I learned some things from visiting with Raychel that I want to pass on to you:

Student Housing Application "Rules of the Road"

1. The Student Housing Assistance application is not available online because not everyone who is getting a higher education and receiving a Tribal scholarship is eligible for the grant. As a result, the decision was made to mail the application directly to students who qualify for the grant. Specifically, student housing assistance is available to students who are obtaining a bachelor's degree or higher, attending class on a full time basis, and have been awarded the Tribal Rolls full time scholarship of \$1500. This means that if you are receiving scholarship funds for vocational training or if you are attending college part time, you do not qualify for housing assistance. But you will qualify if you are working on your associate's degree and have a plan to transfer to a bachelor's degree program. In that situation, you will need to submit an education plan from your counselor or advisor stating your plan to transfer into a bachelor's program.
2. The only students who may



Raychel and her family.

not need to file an application for Housing assistance are those who have submitted information that they are living in a college dorm - if you receive a check from the Nation through Tribal Rolls in the amount of \$2175, this check includes your housing funding. You have been fully-funded for the semester and you will not need to complete a separate Housing grant application.

3. Raychel begins mailing out student housing applications during the last week of September to the first week of October for fall funding, and beginning the first week of February for spring funding. Why not earlier? Because student housing funds come in large part from a federal grant that only can be tapped beginning October 1 (the beginning of the federal government fiscal year). Please note that there is more than one due date for the application. The date will be stated in the mailing you receive and depends on when the student is approved for a qualifying Tribal Rolls full time scholarship.

4. Funding is \$675 for each eligible student, on a twice-year basis, in the fall and spring. No funding is made available in the summer.

5. You may find it frustrating, but the housing assistance application asks for information that overlaps with what is asked in the scholarship

application. That can't be helped. The funding authority, NAHASDA (Native American Housing and Self Determination Act of 1996), which HUD (the Department of Housing and Urban Development) administers, directs CPN's use of an application soliciting all the information asked.

6. The key piece of information unique to the Student Housing Assistance application is current housing information. The housing department is subject to regular NAHASDA-HUD audits and it may not grant a housing award unless it has in its files a copy of the lease between student and landlord if the student is renting. Or, if the student lives with the parent, the student must furnish a lease between the student and parent. For those in a dorm, the housing department is authorized to accept a copy of the university bursar's bill showing the dorm rent paid. HUD regulations also are the reason that applicants who are not dorm-dwellers are required to furnish the year of construction of unit or home, and students who own their own homes must furnish their home mortgage information.

7. A portion of the total funds paid out for student housing assistance comes from the Nation. The award methodology is to seek to qualify applicants for HUD granted funds; applicants whose income sources exceed the HUD funding thresholds are instead funded by the Nation. So the reason all information must be filled out on the application and sent with all of the supporting documents requested is that the housing office needs all information requested to evaluate whether the applicant qualifies for HUD-granted funding.

8. Students are expected to be proactive and to respond to requests for "missing" information. If a student who receives back an incomplete application does not furnish what is lacking, that student will "miss out" on funding for that semester.

It takes some effort to complete



The Carney family.

the Student Housing Assistance application but the reward is a nice stack of cash that surely comes in handy in paying one's rent, dorm bill or mortgage! I am proud to be part of the CPN Government that makes funding student education a priority and personally grateful for that priority. Both of our children have received the Tribal scholarship and student housing grants (Elise graduated with a B.A. (Chinese/ Psychology majors) in 2011, and is shown in this family photo on her graduation day. The tall young man in the photo is Marshall, our college junior.). Raychel has been in her position since July 2006 and so has had a hand in both of their educations. If you have questions for Raychel she can be reached at rgoodall@potawatomi.org or through the CPN switchboard, at 405-273-2833 or toll free at 800-880-9880.

Please Vote and Reach Out - Voting in CPN elections is a core citizen responsibility - please take the time to request your ballot and then cast it and mail it back once it comes by mail. Please continue to share your thoughts with me and to contact me for any assistance you might need. Wishing you and your families a long-lasting springtime!

Eva Marie Carney/Ojindiskwe (Bluebirdwoman)

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District 3 – Robert Whistler



Bozho (Hello)

This month is our last chance to dig into the credentials of the candidates running for our local offices that will be filled in the May elections. In the case of Bedford and Tarrant County, Texas, it will involve several city council members and members for the school board.

You want to know where they stand

on the main issues and if they are going to take care of the majority or for a small group where they feel they have a special need. Let me stop here, and give you a good example of how some changes that may look good are not looked at closely enough.

In our country, there are roughly 383 million citizens. We are currently deeply involved in complying with the Affordable Care Act which supposedly was intended to take care of those who could not get health insurance in the past. From what I have read, the federal government was looking for about seven million people to be signed up in the new exchanges that were setup for this purpose. Thus far only about four million have enrolled in the program. If you look at the numbers given above, this act was designed to help about 1.8 percent of our total population! But only a little more than one percent have actually

enrolled.

However, of the remaining population, over a third of those who already had health insurance have found their original policies cancelled, and the new policies available to them are costing double or even triple what they had before, yet with less coverage, with higher co-pays, and higher deductibles. The big question is, does it make sense to literally create a very heavy cost for many in order to offer something that affect or benefit only a very few? Yes, we need to have health insurance for everyone, but there needs to be a vehicle that does this without such a major negative impact.

We need to ask the right questions of those who will represent us, and who will make the rules and laws we must live with. I mentioned that we have a school board election coming up in May. We have this election, and then

in November we will have our 2014 election for both state and federal congressional offices.

At this time, Texas and four other states have yet to go along with the new Common Core educational state standards. I have heard mixed comments on this program and of those of you with children of school age, you need to explore this area, and also find out where your elected representatives and candidates stand on this very important area. The United States education system is severely behind many other countries. Our graduates are finding they are not competitive enough to compete for many jobs and we need to ensure they get the education they deserve.

In summary, you need to be actively voting in these elections. It is the only way that your voice is heard and for you to have some control before

the fact on what you may have to live with in the future.

I am looking forward to Family Festival in June, and hope to see many of you there. I am honored to represent you and am here to assist where possible. A number of you called me regarding how to go about getting into a new health insurance program and I was pleased to have been able to help.

Until next month, Bama pi (later), Bob Whistler / Bmashi (He soars)
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Hownikan

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ATTENTION ALL CPN MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF OKLAHOMA!

Do you know of tribal members in the states outside of Oklahoma who participate in traditional Native American dancing? If so, we want to know about you and your activities. Please get in contact with us by writing to hownikan@potawatomi.org



Bourbonnais Creek Bridge signs saga: The final piece! On March 3, I appeared before the Shawnee (Kan.) County Board of Commissioners at the invitation of Commissioner Shelly Buhler, the former Mayor of Rossville. The commissioners approved a resolution, proposed by Buhler, supporting our effort to correct the spelling of Bourbonnais Creek. The resolution has been added to our package which has been forwarded to the U.S. Board

of Geographic Names for their consideration.

Recent activities:

1. I have twice been requested to give my CPN history presentation.
 - a. In February I gave the presentation to a class at Haskell University at the invitation of Eric Anderson, CPN member from the Nadeau family and a professor at

Haskell. The class consisted of 11 students from various tribes around the country.

- b. Early in March I gave the presentation at a meeting of the managers and staff of Amerigroup, Inc in Overland Park, Kan. Amerigroup is one of three firms who are contracted to manage KANCARE, the Medicaid program for the State of Kansas.

2. During the past few weeks my help was requested by two authors who have written fictional history novels that contain factual information relating to the Citizen Potawatomi history in the mid to late 1800s.
 - a. The first was a book written by George Godfrey, CPN member and a descendant of the Bergeron family. His novel, "The Indian Marble", is based on the events,

LEGISLATIVE COLUMNS

Boursaw continued...

locations and tragedies experienced by those CPN families who relocated to Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, in the 1870s. The principal character in the book is George's great grandfather, John (Bat) Baptiste Bergeron. My contribution to his book was information on the battle at Dove Creek (Texas) between a group of Potawatomi and Kickapoo, who were relocating to Mexico, and the Texas Militia. If you are interested you can order George's book at pnginnthetwoods@gmail.com.

b.The other opportunity was when I was asked to review a manuscript of a book titled "The Twisted Cross" written by Tom Ellis, a local Topeka author. The book

depicts the circumstances and adventures faced by a teenage boy who was tragically orphaned in Kansas in the late 1840s. A major portion of the story describes how he was assisted by the Potawatomi living near Uniontown on the Kansas Reservation.

Both books are very interesting, informative and a pleasure to read.

CPN member has a birthday: Not just any birthday, but her one hundred and first! On April 9, Violet Lavon Lybarger Hill, a descendant of the Vieux family, turned 101. Lavon lives in Ft Scott, Kan.

Member surveys: It is never too late to submit your surveys.

Office Hours:

Tuesday 9 - 11 a.m.
Thursday 3 - 5 p.m.
Other Times - Please call

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, Wetase Mkoh
CPN District 4 Legislative Representative
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District 7 — Mark Johnson



Bozho nikanek / Hello Friends,

In the last issue of the *Hownikan*, as part of the "Meet the Candidates" questions, I was asked what I saw as the most pressing issue facing the tribe. My answer was about protecting our tribal sovereignty, and that as our tribe strengthens our financial standing in the world, others like local government will try to find

a way to get a piece of the pie. Little did I know that a short couple of days after answering that question, that I along with the other members of the legislature would receive an email from Chairman Barrett outlining the threats being made on our Nation by the City of Shawnee, Okla.

What the City is asking would be like you if you lived in California, but the closest grocery store is across the state line in Nevada. You drive to Nevada and buy the food to feed your family, but now California knows you are driving across the state line to get your food, so they send Nevada a letter saying they need to collect California sales tax on your groceries and send it back to California. And by the way, if you don't do what California wants, you're a criminal in the eyes of California.

We as a Nation cannot allow this type of attack to succeed, if the camel gets its nose under the tent, then the next thing you know the whole camel is in the tent with you, and our tribal sovereignty is gone. Gone with it will be everything else we hold close as a people, our programs, our heritage, our language, everything.

In the last *Hownikan*, Chairman Barrett quoted the United States Supreme Court Chief Justice James Marshall who said "The power to tax is the power to destroy." The CPN has always been a good neighbor to the City of Shawnee. Our Nation pours millions of dollars every year into the local economy in Shawnee and surrounding communities, but as is so often the case, mismanagement of their resources causes them to look to take our resources. This is nothing new after all, our tribe did start out

living in the Great Lakes region.

Chairman Barrett and I need you to stand with us as we defend the Nation from this insanity. If you have relatives who live in and around Shawnee, ask them to voice their displeasure with the path the City has taken. If they are eligible to vote in City elections, make sure they are registered to vote, and use that right on candidates that are friendly towards our Nation.

Once again I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. I want to also remind you that 2014 is an election year for District 7. I hope I have earned your trust and support, but the most important part is your vote, please take the time to make your voice heard. Return your request for an absentee ballot today, and then

vote when it arrives.

As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits to which you are entitled. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and District.

Migwetch / Thank You,

Mark Johnson / Wisk Mtek (Strong as a Tree)
Representative, District 7
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District 8 — Dave Carney



Hello, Friends!

Compared to the rest of the country, we have had it easy weather wise - and spring is just around the corner. I'm not a native to Washington state, but I've lived here for 15 years and I am used to the steady rain. Prior to moving here, I lived in Montana for a couple of years and fought the snow and icy roads, so rain isn't such a big deal to me. Three of my four kids are natives - which means they wear shorts all year and never use an umbrella. Sometimes I think all the

rain on the coast makes us all a little crazy. Last Friday (late February) the temperature peaked at 50 degrees with a glimmer of sunshine and the tank tops and sun dresses made a brief appearance in town.

But overall, it's been a bleak winter. Throughout the fall of 2013 I had communication with a hospice worker in Portland, Ore. regarding a tribal member who had no living family and was seeking to make his final arrangements through the tribe. This gentleman was living in a group home and had periods where he just did not want to communicate with his caregivers or anyone else. For the holiday I mailed off a Pendleton blanket to him with a Christmas card and some other treats. As many of you know, it is our tradition to "gift" Pendleton blankets to the wisest member at gatherings. The blanket also means warmth, shelter, comfort and so many other things, but to him it meant connection to his extended family - the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Our Portland friend walked

on late January and was cremated wrapped in his blanket. The Burial Assistance program paid for the cremation and his remains are now at the Nation awaiting interment. Signing the cremation instructions was probably one of the more unique things I have done for a member.

We have several members incarcerated in the district who have reached out to me, and I try to keep up on correspondence with them. These are people that often feel forgotten by society. Most often they are interested in cultural information - particularly language and crafts. Recently, I have been trying to assist a member in Medford, Ore. find legal assistance for her Potawatomi son. If you are a native attorney or know of a native attorney specializing in criminal law I'd like to hear from you.

As many of you know, District 8 has a closed Facebook group for district members and their families to share events in their lives, cultural information, tribal news and anything

else of interest to the group. I've been very pleased with the positive and civil nature of the dialogue. We have even managed to keep politics out of the site. If you are interested in becoming a member and reside in District 8, please e-mail or "friend" me on Facebook.

I must admit that I scan the other CPN related sites, and am often surprised by the lack of civility and sometimes dismissive remarks - some of these about the Potawatomi language. First I want to say that I respect and salute the language students - I was not blessed with those talents. However, I would like to say to those of us who do not speak Potawatomi - please don't be intimidated - please engage anyway. All 31,000 of us have an equal right to being "People of the Fire". With a little effort, we may all learn a few phrases. The language department offers different levels of on line class instruction. Beginners are welcome and encouraged!

Lastly, I would like to remind the citizens of the district to return

their absentee ballot request to the Election Committee by June 8 - but the sooner the better. I was honored by the Chairman's words of confidence in his column in the February edition of the *Hownikan*. I've enjoyed working with Rocky and the other legislators as we move the Nation forward. I look forward to tackling the issues we face with the City of Shawnee and know that we will prevail against this aggression. I respectfully ask for your vote to return me to the legislature.

In closing, I'd like to say that I'm looking forward to seeing you in 2014 at a regional meeting, district meeting or Naming.

Migwetch,

Dave Carney/Kagashi (Raven)
District 8 Legislator

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District 9—Paul Wesselhoft



Bozho, Nikan,

The Indian Headdress

The recent photo of the Oklahoma governor's daughter wearing a full Indian headdress was not meant to be offensive. However, we wish she had considered the inappropriateness of what she did.

I recently saw a young non-Indian boy wearing an Indian headdress

playing in the company of his parents. The parents acted like they enjoyed the child's frolicking.

The Indian headdress is reserved for our spiritual elders who have spent a lifetime earning the right to wear it. The Indian headdress is spiritual and sacred. It is not a toy. It would make no difference if the young boy were Native American. His parents should have taught him how to respect the Native American culture.

The Indian headdress is not just some pointless hat for you or your child to parade around on holidays and at sporting events. Let me put it this way, if you are Catholic, it would be the equivalent of seeing a Baptist wearing the Pope's mitre or a cleric's collar. Perhaps, if you think of it that way it will make more sense. The Indian headdress is spiritual and sacred. All should respect it and what it historically stands for.

Migwetch.

Paul Wesselhoft/Naganit (Leader)

District 10 — David Barrett



Bozho,

Everybody is aware of our economic condition and is wondering why things aren't better. Why are jobs still not taking a great turn upward? Why are we still spending way too much? Why is fraud still rampant in every direction we look?

If you start feeling overwhelmed

or frustrated, take a breather and realize every problem has a solution. Sometimes you're just so wrapped up in it that you can't see anything but the problem.

Albert Einstein famously said, "You cannot solve a problem with the same mind that created it."

When you identify a problem, you might be emotionally charged, disappointed that the problem exists. Getting angry at others will usually put them into a defensive or withdrawn position, far less helpful for collaborative problem solving.

Give yourself a moment to let the initial emotions calm down, and then you'll be better able to evaluate and decide on how to proceed productively. Here are five approaches that will help in problem solving:

1. **Overview:** There are many ways to solve problems, and it will depend on your situation, experience, knowledge, attitude and the problem itself to determine the best approach. you have a long term problem that will take time to resolve. Your situation may be pressing, but not immediate. At the extremes, your situation may be dire, such as discovering your single-engine plane has just run out of gas.
2. **Divide and Conquer:** Use logic to arrive at a conclusion. First, define the problem. Second, develop a plan. Third, implement the plan. Finally, evaluate the results. Do this until there's an acceptable answer.
3. **Brainstorm:** Talk to people, if time permits, and get them around

the table and proceed with the same steps as in number two above.

4. **Research:** There are many approaches to problem solving. One of the key approaches to solving any problem is research. It may be reading the manual to find out why your car won't start. Or you're pouring over endless legal volumes on case history and precedent to find the best approach for that civil suit. It may even be during your IRS audit, research can play a vital role in problem solving.

5. **Diligence:** In closing, perhaps the best approach of all is to incorporate every approach you know, and don't give up until your problem is solved. There is a solution to every problem, even if that solution is difficult to

accept.

Don't turn away from your problems, because they will come back sooner or later and it will be more difficult to solve. Common sense can help to reduce the size of the problem. Problem solving is one of the most essential skills in life regardless who you are or what you do, you will face obstacles. How you deal with such challenges will often be a determining factor in how successful you are at life.

Its goes without saying that it is both a pleasure and an honor to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch,
David Barrett/Mnedobe (Sits with the Spirit)
Oklahoma Legislature, District#10
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EXECUTIVE COLUMNS

Chairman — John Barrett



Bozho Nikan, (Hello, my friend)

Tribes and City government disputes seldom make headlines. Most recently, and unfortunately, they have. The sales tax controversy in which the City of Shawnee is attempting to tax the four tribes near town, particularly the retail operations at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, is heating up. What people may be missing

is the fact that the land on which tribal governments operate is deeded to the United States and held in trust.

A similar situation exists in Midwest City. Given its massive economic impact, it would be strange to see Midwest City and Del City disparage the role Tinker Air Force Base has on the state economy and the economy of the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. The people who live in these communities would be understandably puzzled if their elected leaders began threatening one of the largest employers of the very citizens who elected them. Yet the role of the Indian Nations in Oklahoma, also on federal land, is not seen in the same light. All too often in Oklahoma, the economic impact, jobs and development created by Native American tribes gets taken for

granted. The numbers don't lie. In the last year alone, Oklahoma's 38 federally recognized tribes had a \$10.8 billion impact and directly employed more than 50,000 people. Tribal payrolls contributed a total of \$1.5 billion to the state's economy. Tribes also made payments of \$792 million for improved access to medical care, education, social services and economic development opportunities.

Tribal business has become a normal part of the daily life in this great state. Tourism destinations, job creation, business diversification and improving quality of life can all be traced back to tribal economic development. In many cases, particularly in rural areas, Oklahoma's tribes are the only source of livelihood and prosperity for the communities where they do business.

That development comes at a cost though, and tribes have struggled to make economic dreams a reality throughout the years. The boost from gaming has helped tremendously, but tribes must continue to diversify and create a tax base to further economic development and job creation.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has begun to flourish because of such strategic planning and stable governance. A clear direction and plan to become the economic engine for our Tribe and the communities near us has allowed us to increase our assets from just \$50,000 in 1972 to today's economic impact of more than \$520 million.

Without Tribal development there is little growth in our cities or state. Oklahoma's Tribes are the

largest employers statewide. Our employees spend their paychecks in thousands of businesses across Oklahoma, all while tribes continue to offer services and economic stimulation through their very presence. Simply put, without tribal job creation, sales tax growth is not possible.

Tribal governments, businesses and social services form an integral part in the fabric of this great state. Attempting to punish Oklahoma's tribes for their success is a questionable strategy, and misguided attempts to stifle that success will only result in all Oklahomans losing out, no matter what their heritage.

Migwetch,
John "Rocky" Barrett, Keweoqe Tribal Chairman

Vice Chairman — Linda Capps



Bozho,

Not long ago I was writing to you about our Nation's interest in the Amateur Athletes Union (AAU), an organization that sponsors young athletes in order to allow them to participate in various sporting events. Last year, CPN formed a committee

to organize young Native athletes for competitions in three different sports for the weekend of July 6-7, 2013. The sports chosen were golf, softball, and bowling.

Although there were few athletes for the golf and bowling, our committee was encouraged by the enthusiasm of those who participated. The softball event was cancelled due to a lack of participants. A second attempt was scheduled in the fall and again, the response was insufficient. In other words, a worthy effort by our committee proved unsuccessful for the AAU endeavor.

That is not the case with the Jim Thorpe Native American Games. Our Nation has been active with the games since the summer of 2012. Even Chairman Barrett

was involved, as he blessed the participants by smudging each athlete as they completed the grand entry parade during opening ceremony. The grand entry is quite impressive to witness, as dozens of Native American youth from various tribes come together to begin a week of athletic competition.

This year the Jim Thorpe Games will come "home" to Shawnee and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Our Nation will host the softball and golf competitions in addition to an exhibition of stickball, which has been growing in popularity at our Nation. I encourage you to come out and see this exciting sporting exhibition, which will take place at our pow-wow grounds.

The Jim Thorpe Native American

Games opening ceremonies will take place at the FireLake Arena, which will kick off a week of competition in a number of venues around Shawnee. Competitors from 70 different tribes across the U.S. and Canada will participate, so please join me in welcoming them all for the opening ceremonies in our great new arena!

Jim Thorpe, known as the greatest athlete of the 20th century, is well known for his Sac and Fox heritage on his father's side of the family, and less know for his Potawatomi heritage from his mother, who was Vieux. I was honored to have the opportunity to speak with Jim Thorpe's son, Bill, during the press conference announcing the change of location for the 2014 games.

The dates for this year's events are June 8-14, and more information can be found at www.jimthorpegames.com. Please come out and support our fellow Native American athletes, and if you know someone of high school age who would be interested in participating, encourage them to sign up. The entry deadline is May 1, with no exceptions.

I look forward to seeing you at the Family Reunion Festival on June 27-29. As many know, our Festival improves each year. I have no doubt that you will not be disappointed with what we've got in store for this year's event.

Migwetch,
Linda Capps
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RE-ELECT MARK A. JOHNSON

A member of the Vieux and Johnson families

DISTRICT 7 LEGISLATOR

IN MY 34 YEARS AS A PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER, I HAVE LIVED BY THREE GUIDING PRINCIPALS HONOR • INTEGRITY • COOPERATION

Follow us

Legislator Mark A. Johnson
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CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

VOTE ABSENTEE

MICHAEL BOURBONNAIS

District 7 Representative for Northern NV, North CA and Hawaii

- Defend CPN's unalienable right of self-governance
- Protect CPN health and human services
- Provide quality education and career opportunities
- Support CPN economic diversification
- Preserve CPN culture and traditions

Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Bourbonnais, Peltier and Anderson families

michaelbourbonnais@nativeweb.net

- 25 years business and education leadership
- 15 years technology professional
- 12 years higher education experience
- Active in native and local communities
- Master of Business Administration, Strategic Leadership (Amberton University, 2010)
- Bachelor in Science, Business Management (University of Phoenix, 2007)
- Associate in Science, Information Systems (Pierce City College, 2000)

FIRELAKE GIFTS ONLINE IS YOUR ONE STOP SHOP FOR NATIVE GIFTS,

offering original works as well as limited prints by Native American artists, along with handmade jewelry and supplies for artisans working on their own projects.

The storefront is located inside the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center at 1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:30PM
Saturday 10:00AM - 3:00PM

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WALKING ON...



Benton Young Burton Jr.

June 27, 1922 - February 8, 2014
Benton Young Burton, Jr., or, "Burt," passed away at Mesa Manor in Grand Junction, Colorado, on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

He will fondly be remembered as a true gentleman that loved life. He was humble, kind, considerate, strong, loving, and patriotic.

He was born in Maud, Oklahoma, on June 27, 1922, to parents, Benton Young Burton, Sr., and DeLilah Ogee-Burton.

Prior to joining the military, Benton was a funeral director and embalmer. He served in the United States Air Force; his military service began in 1942. He served during four wars: WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the toughest one... the Cold War. He retired from the USAF as an E-9, in 1975, after 30 plus years of honorable service to our country.

He was a proud member of the Potawatomi Indian Nation. In 2005, he was honored by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation for his career of military service. His military memoirs are being preserved in the Potawatomi Cultural Heritage Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

In 1998, Burt married Shirley Cunningham. They began the second chapter of their lives in Battlement Mesa before moving to Grand Junction in 2001.

In addition to his wife, their children survive him, Nancy Pinkston (Apple Valley, California); DeeAnne Black (Palmdale, California); Sue Stitt and Beth Price (Grand Junction, Colorado), and Jeff Cunningham, (Glenwood Springs, Colorado). He also leaves 15 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

He was formerly married, with three children, to Willie Mae Green, who preceded him in death. His daughter, Sharon Shelton of Maud, Oklahoma, also preceded him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Colorado Grand Valley Combined Honor Guard.

A service will be held, beginning at 10:00 a.m., this Thursday, February 13, 2014, at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery of Western Colorado in Grand Junction.



Bernard F. Schroepfer

Bernard F. Schroepfer, 89, of Overland Park, Kansas, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 18, 2014.

Bernard was born on June 19, 1924 in Topeka, Kansas and resided there until entering college after War World II.

He attended Hayden High School and Rockhurst College briefly before graduating from Washburn University in 1948.

Bernard spent 3 years in World War II in the Army's eighth Armored Division in Europe and participated in The Battle of the Bulge.

Upon return from the war, Bernard married his loving wife of 43 years, Dolores, and had four children and a great family life which meant the world to him.

Bernard began his long career in retailing by joining Western Auto Supply Company in 1948 and served as its National Merchandising Manager in the Kansas City corporate office. He retired from Western Auto after 31 years and then worked for Newco Manufacturing in Martin City, Missouri as an office manager for 7 years, retiring in 1985.

Bernard was a member of the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Overland Park, the Spirit Movers Club and the American Legion Post #370.

Bernard was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Lucile Schroepfer, his wife Dolores, son Scott, son-in-law Fred Plassmeyer, and granddaughter Michelle Plassmeyer.

Bernard is survived by his wife of 20 years, Rose Mary Schroepfer of Overland Park who cared for him devotedly and with great love; his daughter, Paula Plassmeyer of Overland Park, son Clay Schroepfer of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and daughter Jan (Josh) Oden of Coppell, Texas; his grandchildren Alex Plassmeyer, Mary Ann (Squire) Lawrence, Claire Schroepfer, Joshua Oden and Natalie Oden; and his sister-in-law Carrie De Marco.

Bernard was a kind and gentle man and loved by all who knew him.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 25, 2014 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 11300 W. 103rd St., Overland Park, Kansas 66214. Visitation was at 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 25, 2014 at the church. Burial followed at the Resurrection Cemetery 8321 Quivira Rd, Lenexa, Kansas 66215.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial gifts to Holy Spirit Catholic Church, or Heartland Hospice, 4601 College Blvd, Leawood, Kansas 66211.

The family would like to express their appreciation to all the Care Givers at Heartland Hospice and Sunrise Assisted Living both of Leawood, Kansas. Fond memories and condolences for the family may be left at www.johnsoncountychapel.com Arrangements by D.W. Newcomer's Sons Johnson County Chapel, 11200 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park, KS 66210. (913) 451-1860



Donna Jean Welch

Donna was born July 17, 1935 in Oklahoma City, OK. She married James M. Welch on December 26, 1956. She attended St. Francis Grade School, Hogan High School and The College of St. Theresa. Donna lived in Crystal Lake, IL for 22 years where she worked at Pioneer Center Workshop as the director of client programs. After moving back to Kansas City in 1998 she went to work for her brother at Spivey's Rare Book Store. She was passionate about many things-sewing, photography, cooking, entertaining, friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents Donald and Gertrude Spivey and her brother David Spivey. Donna is survived by her husband of 57 years, James M. Welch, Jr.; her children Lorrie Haller (Kevin), Letty Storm (Chris), Louise Steinbach (Michael) and Larry Welch (Angela); ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mt Moriah & Freeman Funeral Home. 10507 Holmes Rd., Kansas City, MO 64131. (816) 942-2004

Memorial contributions may be made to Kansas City Hospice House, 9221 Ward Parkway, Ste. 100, Kansas City, MO 64114.



Kimberly M. Holeman

Kimberly, 48 shown above with her father Lee Holeman of San Benito, Texas, lost her fight with cancer January 20, 2014. She was her father's "Babel". She leaves behind her partner of 17 years, Steve Davis of Norcross, Ga.

Born in Houston, Texas, she leaves two sons, Jason Villarreal of Houston and Benjamin Dacke of Coral Lighthouse Point, Fla. She, the baby of the family, leaves a brother, Rick Holeman of Austin and a sister, Melody Olson of Pasadena, Texas.

She will be missed terribly by her family and all who knew and loved her, but will live in our hearts forever. May she rest in peace, without pain and suffering under the care of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond to:
theholemams@aol.com.



Monzita Poynter

Monzita Poynter, 68, of Owensboro entered Heaven on Friday, January 14, 2014, at Fordsville Nursing & Rehab.

She was born January 5, 1946 in Ada, OK. to Roy and Ruby Ray. Her life was spent in loving,

caring, and helping others. She never met a stranger and always had a comforting smile and words of encouragement for everyone. Monzita was proud of her Indian heritage, being a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribe in Oklahoma. She brought happiness and laughter to everyone's life. Those who knew her never forgot the difference she made in their lives.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and a brother, Roy Jimmy Ray. Survivors are her husband of 50 years, Jerry Poynter, a son Ben (Kristie) Poynter, a daughter Jennifer (Ben) Hamlet, four grandchildren: John Poynter, Jay Poynter, Rebecca Hamlet, and Wesley Hamlet, as well as a step-grandson, Devin Ellifritz. She is also survived by nieces and nephew: Karena Ray Buskill, Kathy Ray, and Roy James Ray.

Services were held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at James H. Davis Funeral Home with the Reverend Ben "Hammer" Hamlet officiating. Burial followed in the Karns Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to Karns Grove Baptist Church Building Fund, 6371 Karns Grove Road, Philpot, Ky. 42376.



Phyllis Ann Crumb

Graveside services for Phyllis Ann Crumb were on Wednesday, January 22, 2014 2:00 P.M. at Fairview Cemetery near Maud, Oklahoma with Rev. Robert Peterson officiating.

Visitation was on Tuesday evening from 6-8 P.M. at the funeral home.

Phyllis was born February 13, 1943 at Konawa, Oklahoma to Elva Swarb and Della Mae Helsel. She passed from this life on January 17, 2014 in Ardmore, OK at the age of 70.

Phyllis enjoyed cooking for her family, sewing, gardening or just being outside watching the birds. She was very proud of her Native American heritage and being a registered member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She was the first to offer a helping hand no matter what and she loved the many stray pets she adopted throughout the years. She had a laugh all her own and always found joy in the littlest things in life. The one thing that always made her smile and laugh the most was spending time with her grandchildren.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her parents; and brother Thurman Swarb. She is survived by her children Carey Howard Campbell of Ardmore, Perry Leslie Campbell of Ardmore, Gary Lee Campbell II of Davis, Elva Richard Campbell of Davis, Brandy Ann Taliaferro of Davis and Terri Jean Hamilton and husband Rafe of Ardmore; sister Norma Jean Swarb; grandchildren Chris, Dylan, Shani, and Colt Campbell, Taylor and Toby Taliaferro; and one great grandchild Miley Ross Campbell. Pallbearers will be the

grandchildren.

Theresa D'Ann Layson, 58 years



Theresa D'Ann Layson

6 months 29 days, of Crowder, Oklahoma, died January 19, 2014 at McAlester Regional Medical Center.

The family received visitors from 6-8 pm, Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at Bishop Funeral Service. Services were at 10 am, Thursday, January 23, 2014 at Grace Temple Pentecostal Church, Crowder, OK. Interment was at 3 pm, Thursday at Ochelata Cemetery, Ochelata, OK officiated by Rev. Chester Denny. Service arrangements are under the direction of Bishop Funeral Service.

Born June 20, 1955 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma to Bill McGuire and Sharon Grider. She grew up in Bartlesville and Ochelata, OK, graduating from Bartlesville High School.

She was married to David Layson on February 14, 1985 in Miami, Oklahoma. She has spent many years in Crowder, OK with her beloved husband and family.

Theresa loved to fish, ride horses, watch soap operas, and always looked forward to the evening phone calls she shared with her mom. She loved animals and was grieving the loss of her beloved dog, Chico.

She was a member of the Grace Temple Pentecostal Church in Crowder where she loved to sing and play the tambourine during services. Theresa also loved to cook and to help other people.

She is survived by: her husband, David Layson of Crowder, Oklahoma; Sons: Tracy Jester (Tabitha) of Tulsa, Oklahoma Justin Jester (BJ) of Canadian, Oklahoma; Mother and step-father Sharon and Nelson Hanks of Nowata, Oklahoma; Father, William "Bill" McGuire of Talala, Oklahoma; Siblings: Carla Reddout of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, William "Bull" McGuire (Lynn) of Nowata, Oklahoma, Harrell Wayne McGuire (Zella) of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Krista Mitchell of Muskogee, Oklahoma; Sisters-in-law: Dorothy Honn of Warsaw, Missouri, Carol Rickson of Los Banos, California; Brother-in-law, Kenneth Layson of Los Banos, California; Niece, Stephanie Clark of Mills Valley, California; Cousin, Sarah Beth Brewer of Chillicothe, Missouri. She is also survived by: seven grandchildren along with numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by: her infant daughter, Kimberly Jester; her grandmother, Marjorie Grider; her aunt and uncle, Pauline and Walter Kulesza.

Active Pallbearers: Tyler Jester, Greg Hubbard, Donnie Scherman, Mark Scherman, Kyle Scherman, Allen McGuire

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Theresa Layson Memorial Fund c/o Arvest.